



Daily Report

Soviet Union

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Golts Notes Discord on U.S. Chemical Weapons Policy
PM2610152089 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 22 Oct 89 First Edition p 3

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA observer Aleksandr Golts article under the rubric "The World Today: Problems, Opinion": "'Bigeye' or a Convention")]

[Text] "Bigeye," the new U.S. chemical bomb, will start coming off the production lines and entering the armory no earlier than 1992. But it is already doing damage, and very serious damage at that. No, we are not yet talking about a direct effect on people's lives or health. The program to create this bomb could, by all appearances, damage something of fundamental importance, namely the banning of chemical weapons and the total elimination of stockpiles.

It has been reported repeatedly that in Geneva, where talks were in progress to draw up a comprehensive convention on this subject, the participating states are only a few steps from the objective. Fewer and fewer steps remain. Both the United States and the Soviet Union have done much to accelerate this progress recently.

Let me remind you that chemical weapons problems held an important place at the talks between Soviet Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker, held in Wyoming in September. A special joint statement was also adopted there. It states that mutual understanding has been reached on a joint experiment that will provide for the exchange of data on military chemical potential, followed by the monitoring of their accuracy by means of on-site inspections. That is, even before the signing of a multilateral document the USSR and the United States decided to investigate how effective their proposed verification measures are.

The area of mutual understanding was widened still further in the course of the 44th UN General Assembly Session. Speaking from its high platform, President Bush spoke of the concrete contribution of the United States to the cause of the speediest possible banning of "silent death." In his opinion the U.S. chemical arsenal should be eliminated within 10 years of the signing of the convention (98 percent in the first 8 years and the remaining 2 percent in the last 2 years). Most important, the President announced the intention to eliminate 80 percent of chemical toxins before the signing of a multilateral document on condition that the USSR does the same.

Our country's reaction was speedy. The following day, E.A. Shevardnadze's speech contained a proposal addressed to the United States on stopping the production of chemical weapons, as the USSR has already done. Our country considers it possible on a bilateral basis radically to reduce or totally to destroy chemical weapons, not to use them in any circumstances, and to establish the strictest verification of the cessation of production of chemical means of waging war.

At virtually the same time hopes sprang up for the resolution of a highly complex problem that had until recently delayed the completion of work on the convention. This is the question of monitoring at private chemical enterprises. At a conference in Canberra, representatives of the West's biggest chemical concerns declared their readiness to cooperate with governments in formulating a monitoring procedure that would guarantee the nonproduction of military chemicals and at the same time preserve commercial secrecy. Naturally, all this inspired hopes of the speedy signing of the convention.

Then, at that moment, reports appeared in American newspapers that even after the signing of the treaty the United States will continue chemical weapons production. It was stated that President Bush has given a secret order to that effect. Doubts even emerged as to the reliability of this information. But no, in an interview for the AP news agency a spokesman for the administration confirmed that the reports are true.

This turn of events caused considerable concern even to the American legislators. "A step backward in efforts to restrict the spread of chemical weapons in the world"—that is how G. Mitchell, leader of the democratic majority in the Senate, described it. "The discrepancies between the administration's statements on chemical weapons production and on talks cannot but cause concern"—that is the view of D. Fascell, chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

So what is the reason for this unexpected White House decision? In my view, the reason lies first and foremost in the reluctance of the U.S. military department to abandon the new generation of chemical munitions—binary weapons. Binary weapons, which consist of two components of comparatively low toxicity which can be stored and transported separately, offer American strategists considerable advantages. Artillery shells of this type have been in production in the United States for 2 years. But there is a delay with the "Bigeye" bomb, despite the fact that hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent. Because of design shortcomings, it will not be able to come on stream in less than 3 years from now.

But "Bigeye" is the main hope of the Pentagon strategists, who are counting on delivering it to possible regions of conflict in the holds of aircraft carriers and the bomb bays of combat aircraft. Yet it seems that the convention could be concluded before the bomb is ready for production. So people in and around the Pentagon got worried. Eventually the military managed to obtain the President's consent to the production of "Bigeye" even after the signing of the convention.

This decision, in my view, creates far greater obstacles on the path to the total banning of chemical weapons than those that have already been overcome. It will be necessary to revise the already agreed draft of the convention. Virtually the entire verification system is called into question. In fact, in this event there will be no need

for monitoring. After all, they will be continuing to create chemical weapons. The inspectors will only have to record this sad fact.

There is another factor, too. The U.S. decision could evoke a reaction in those developing countries that are close to creating chemical weapons of their own. After all, the production of these weapons is far simpler and cheaper than that of nuclear weapons. As a result, the danger of the proliferation of "silent death" will increase still further.

In other words, the secret directive is a bomb laid beneath the entire convention. Let us think about it: A state which has a mighty chemical arsenal intends to produce chemical weapons even after signing a document banning them. What does this mean? Either it does not believe in the effectiveness of the convention, or it is seeking unilateral advantages. In either case, it renders worthless this international document, which is almost drafted.

That is precisely what the admirers of "silent death" want. Thus in an interview for THE WASHINGTON POST Colonel R. Orton calls not for the curtailment of the military chemical program, but for the creation of more effective chemical agents than binary and VX. He believes that there are more modern chemicals that could ensure "coverage of a larger area, thanks to even distribution over the enemy dispositions."

Colonel H. Stinger, until recently acting assistant defense secretary on chemical problems, believes that vehicles of chemical death that are even more sophisticated than the existing ones could be created. In particular, weapons could be produced whose operation could be regulated on the battlefield, so as to "overcome unfavorable weather and achieve better distribution on the target of attack."

Yes, chemical weapons were and, by all appearances, still are an important component in U.S. military doctrine. Again according to THE WASHINGTON POST, the use of binary artillery shells is regarded as a "countermeasure to the concentration of Soviet troops." They prefer to drop the "Bigeye" bomb on airfields, command centers, and other targets "where we do not expect our troops to be present for about a month, if ever." Assistant Defense Secretary R. Barker spoke of these plans in his testimony in Congress.

Chemical weapons far less sophisticated than those the Pentagon officials are talking about have already caused many peoples countless sufferings. Remember the tragedy of the million people poisoned on the battlefields of World War I, remember those who suffered during the war in Vietnam. Today, now that the USSR and the United States are increasingly clearly moving on from mutual understanding to collaboration in resolving the most acute international problems, including disarmament problems, chemical war, with all its inherent barbarity, looks like the offspring of someone's gloomy imagination.

Whether the White House likes it or not, by giving the directive on the production of binary weapons in the next decade, it is conniving with the terrible plans of the chemical Neanderthals like Stinger and Barker. By all appearances, Washington has not yet taken a policy decision on banning chemical weapons. But it is quite clear that in the near future the President will have to choose between his own constructive proposals, formulated in the UN speech, and his own secret directive. Because the two can hardly be compatible.

U.S. Ready To Discuss Military Bases in Europe

LD2710083989 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Washington October 27 TASS—The U.S. State Department on Thursday for the first time expressed the readiness of the Bush administration to discuss with the Soviet Union the question of eliminating military bases in Europe.

The statement was issued on Thursday in connection with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's remarks in the Soviet Parliament about the Soviet readiness to promote the disbandment of the military blocs in Europe on the basis of reciprocity.

"We support that aim and are willing to work with them (the Soviet Union) to preserve their security through political rather than military means," the State Department's brief statement said.

In the past, when the Soviet Union had raised similar proposals, "We have assumed their aim was the elimination of American bases on foreign soil" and could not accept "such an outcome," the statement emphasised.

The statement however hints that the United States is now prepared to make adjustments to its attitude in view of radical changes in the international atmosphere.

"Under current circumstances, however, the statement says in particular, "The Soviets may be signalling that they are searching for ways to disengage from some of their foreign military commitments, particularly in Europe."

The fact that the State Department originally gave a cool reception to Shevardnadze's proposal and has now issued this statement is a clear indication of U.S. readiness to discuss this proposal with the Soviet Union, the ASSOCIATED PRESS news agency wrote.

Nuclear-Free Zone in N. Europe Discussed

LD2710191589 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev:

Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals in Helsinki drew attention again to a pressing large-scale task of achieving radical lowering of the level of military confrontation in

the North of Europe and replacing distrust and suspiciousness with confidence, and confrontation with peaceful coexistence and interaction.

It should be noted that the Soviet Union gave a firm and consistent support to Finland's proposal to create a nuclear-free zone in Nordic Europe.

The USSR proclaimed more than once its readiness to become a guarantor of such a zone. It suggested that each state or group of states concerned should discuss all the problems involved in the creation of such a zone, and possible measures regarding Soviet territory.

Not limiting itself to calls and proposals, the USSR has taken important practical steps.

Even before the Soviet-American treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles was concluded, the Soviet Union unilaterally dismantled launchers of medium-range missiles in the Kola Peninsula and a large number of such launchers in the remaining territories of the Leningrad and Baltic Military Districts.

A considerable number of operational-tactical missiles were removed from these districts.

The Soviet president said that there are no intermediate- or shorter-range missiles on operational status in areas adjacent to the North of Europe at present.

The tactical weapons are now deployed in areas from which they cannot reach Northern Europe. Isn't this a real basis for guaranteeing a nuclear-free zone in the region?

The Soviet proposals largely take into account the opinions, ideas and proposals expressed by North European countries.

Taking into consideration the concern of neighbours, Soviet leaders considered additional measures to resolve problems of security and cooperation in the North of Europe.

Undoubtedly, the Soviet Union's decision about its nuclear weapons in the Baltic Sea area is very important.

The Soviet Union is unilaterally eliminating certain categories of sea-launched weapons in the Baltic area.

It was already reported that as an initial step the Soviet Union has already withdrawn two submarines, and will eliminate before the end of 1990 the four remaining submarines known in the West as Golf submarines.

It was also announced that all nuclear missiles meant for these submarines will be eliminated. They will not be replaced.

Besides that, the Soviet Union expressed readiness to reach agreement with all nuclear powers and Baltic countries about effective guarantees for the non-nuclear status of the Baltic Sea.

All these steps and proposals take into consideration the place occupied by Nordic Europe in the world today and the relationship between regional tendencies and facts and global affairs.

The proposals announced in Helsinki manifest the new political thinking applied to problems of security and cooperation in the North.

Geneva Delegate on Bringing Policy 'Into Line'

LD2710095989 Moscow TASS in English 0929 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] New York October 27 TASS—"The Soviet Union will increasingly bring its policy into line with the universal values that are reflected and upheld by the United Nations," Sergey Batsanov, the Soviet delegate on the Geneva disarmament conference, said at a briefing here Thursday.

"It is necessary to make maximum use of all U.N. mechanisms to resolve the key issues of our epoch, primarily disarmament.

The Soviet delegate called attention to the need of combining bilateral disarmament steps with multilateral efforts. "Constructive parallelism is needed here. We have stopped looking at the world through the prism of rivalry among the great powers," he said.

Batsanov dwelt on the practical steps taken to implement the Wyoming decisions to further step up the Soviet-American dialogue. "New meetings and consultations have been added to the already existing ones," he revealed. "Thus, the first meeting within the frameworks of bilateral Soviet-American consultations on banning chemical weapons will be held in New York on October 30."

Asked about chemical weapons, the Soviet delegate said: "The U.S. position on the convention on chemical weapons, now on the drawing boards, is not clear to us. It is our opinion that production of chemical weapons should be stopped after the convention enters into force."

Missile Launcher Eliminated at Stankovo

LD2710135289 Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Minsk October 27 TASS—"The last launcher for an OTR-23 shorter-range missile was eliminated at the Soviet missile base at Stankovo today in the presence of numerous representatives of the general public, reporters, and a delegation from the republican peace committee.

The base is 50 kilometres away from Minsk, the capital of Soviet Byelorussia.

Representatives of the Soviet National Nuclear Risk Reduction Centre, the personnel of the Stankovo base and members of the U.S. inspection group addressed those present.

The elimination of a whole class of missiles is a truly historic event, and a vivid illustration of new thinking in international relations and of mankind's resolute headway toward a nuclear-free world, speakers said.

The participants in the meeting backed the proposal made by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in his speech in Helsinki. He urged the governments of the United States and other countries to follow Finland's example and make their countries reliable guarantors of European and world security.

After the meeting, Soviet and American specialists signed final documents certifying that there are no longer any OTR-23 launchers in the world.

Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Meet

Communique Issued

LD2710183089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
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["Communique of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee Session"]

[Text] 1. On 26-27 October 1989 there was a scheduled meeting of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance.

Taking part in the meeting were: The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Ivan Ganev; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, Gyula Horn; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, Oskar Fischer; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Poland, Krzysztof Skubiszewski; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Ioan Totu; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, Eduard Shevardnadze; and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the CSSR, Jaromir Johanes.

Also taking part were: The minister in the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Khristo Khristov; the Deputy Minister for Trade of the Republic of Hungary, Piroska Apro; the State Secretary in the GDR Ministry for Foreign Trade, Kurt Fenske; the Minister for Foreign Economic Cooperation of the People's Republic of Poland, Marcin Swiecicki; the Minister, State Secretary in the Ministry for Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Cornel Pinzaru; the USSR First Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations, A.I. Kachanov; and the CSSR Minister for Foreign Trade, Jan Sterba.

2. The ministers discussed the status and tendencies in the development of international relations. They underlined the validity of the assessments made in the documents of the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact participant states on 7-8 July 1989 in Bucharest, both regarding the positive tendencies in the international situation and regarding the phenomena that shape these in a complex and contradictory manner in many ways. In this connection the ministers affirm their states' resolve to continue to act for disarmament and for the consolidation of peace, security and confidence, for the democratization of intra-state relations and for the development of broad international cooperation.

3. The participants in the meeting noted that under the conditions of a contradictory situation in Europe, preconditions for a radical change in relations between the countries of the continent, the step by step overcoming of its division, and the final eradication of the remnants of the "Cold War" are maturing. One of the basic preconditions for shaping a secure, peaceful, and indivisible Europe lies in the preservation of the right of each

and every people to self-determination and to the free choice of its social, political, and economic path of development without external intervention.

Of fundamental importance for the building of a common European home in the variety of the countries' social and state orders are the unconditional respect for the inviolability of the existing borders, of territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of states and the adhering to the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, of the resolutions of the CSCE Final Acts and of the other documents adopted within the framework of the Helsinki Process.

Any attempts whatsoever to destabilize the situation, to question the borders which arose after the war, and to renew the discussion on this question, and damage the process of the strengthening of trust and security in Europe. Full respect for the prerogatives of sovereign states, including the question of state citizenship, in agreement with obligations under international law, is necessary. The meeting pointed to the danger of the strengthening of neo-Nazism and revanchism in several countries in Western Europe.

The ministers held the opinion that the involvement of the military-political alliances does not promote the resolution of bilateral disputes. Constructive, equal dialogue between the interested countries can be the sole path toward the solution of these questions.

4. The participants in the meeting pointed to the significance of the development of the Helsinki process in all areas to create lasting foundations for security and for closer cooperation between all states. They are determined to contribute on all sides to the realization of the agreements reached at the Vienna meeting within the framework of the all-European process as a whole.

The ministers stressed with satisfaction the positive development in the Vienna negotiations between the 23 countries of the Warsaw Pact and NATO on conventional armed forces in Europe. They expressed the determination to make every effort so that an initial treaty on radical reductions in armed forces and conventional arms can be achieved in the coming year. This agreement could be signed by the end of 1990 at a conference of the state or government heads of Europe, the United States, and Canada. A foreign ministers meeting should precede this conference. The reductions in armed forces and conventional arms should be implemented within 2-3 years. That will make possible a significant reduction of the level of arms and military expenditure, a release of great material and human resources for social-economic development, and the consolidation of stability and security on the continent.

The participants in the meeting spoke in support of the adoption of a complex of new measures that would include all types of military activity, including those of the air and navy forces, in the negotiations of the 35 CSCE participant states on confidence- and security-building measures.

The creation of a center for reducing the danger of war and for preventing a surprise attack in Europe would have essential importance. The ministers expressed hope that the seminar of the 35 CSCE participant states on the question of military doctrines would serve the consolidation of trust in Europe.

The participants in the meeting supported the immediate commencement of separate negotiations on the tactical nuclear weapons in Europe.

5. In disarmament the allied states see the key question of today. They hold fast to the aim of eliminating nuclear and chemical weapons.

The ministers underlined the importance of the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the liquidation of missiles of intermediate- and shorter-range and spoke in support of the conclusion of a treaty between the USSR and the United States as quickly as possible on the 50-percent reduction of their strategic offensive weapons. It is necessary to adhere to the USSR-U.S. ABM Treaty in the form in which it was signed in 1972.

The participants in the meeting pointed to the necessity of halting all nuclear weapons tests. They issued the appeal to forgo on a reciprocal basis the modernization of these weapons.

The ministers supported the conclusion of an international convention as quickly as possible on the complete banning and destruction of chemical weapons and called on the participants in the Geneva negotiations to solve the remaining outstanding questions in the year 1990. It is important to increase the effectiveness of the work of the Geneva disarmament conference in toto.

The participants at the meeting spoke in support of commencing negotiations on naval armed forces with the participation of all interested states and in the first instance of those who have the greatest potential at their disposal.

The ministers conducted an exchange of opinions on the proposal to create a regime of the "open skies."

The participants in the meeting discussed problems of the conversion of military production. They are ready to carry out international consultations on this topic.

The ministers affirmed the further validity of the positions and proposals on questions of disarmament in the statement of the Bucharest meeting of the Political Consultative Committee "for a stable and secure Europe, free of nuclear and chemical weapons, for a substantial reduction in armed forces, arms, and military expenditure."

6. The ministers expressed concern over the insufficient development of all-European economic cooperation. The development of a broad economic cooperation corresponds to the growing mutual dependency of the countries of the continent. It is a necessary precondition for the creation of a material basis for detente and for raising

Europe in future to qualitatively new economic and technological level of development. This should be served by the more complete and deeper incorporation of all countries of the continent in a modern system of the international division of labor, and in world trade on the basis of the generally recognized principles and rules, including the principles of mutual advantage, of nondiscrimination and most-favored nation status. It is necessary to eliminate obstacles and limitations on the extension of relations in the economy, trade, science, technology and production, and to overcome the practice of the obstruction of its development out of political considerations.

The participant states of the Warsaw Pact support the extension of equal bilateral and multilateral economic cooperation, including that between the economic organizations in Europe. The conference forthcoming in Bonn in 1990 should play an important role hereby.

The importance of the extension of international cooperation in environmental protection was stressed. The all-European environmental protection meeting in Sofia is called upon to give new impulses to such cooperation based on the understanding of the continent as an ecological whole. The participants at the meeting pointed to the successful course of this meeting and hope that it will end in concrete conclusions and recommendations that would have positive effects on further development of the all-European process.

7. The participants in the meeting expressed their conviction that the complete implementation of the totality of human rights and basic freedoms in every country, and the realization of civil, political, economic, social, cultural, and other rights, regardless of race, gender, language, faith, and nationality, is an indivisible element of the process of creating an all-European home, a unified Europe in its variety.

Cooperation and businesslike dialogue between the states in the humanitarian area is an important component of international security. The ministers thereby supported the extension of human contacts and cooperation in the area of information, culture, and education. They conducted an exchange of opinion on preparations for the conferences on the human dimension of CSCE in Copenhagen and Moscow and on the Krakow symposium on the European cultural heritage.

8. The participants at the meeting expressed their conviction that advances in the area of disarmament, in confidence building, and the development of cooperation, as well as in the construction of an indivisible Europe, would permit the creation of an all-European system of collective security and the simultaneous dissolution of the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The creation of contacts between the two alliances in many areas would serve the realization of this objective.

9. The ministers spoke in support of settling as quickly as possible existing regional conflicts and seats of tension on the path of negotiation and pointed to the necessity of continuing to strengthen the UN role in this area.

The participants at the meeting supported the comprehensive political settlement of the Afghanistan problem on the basis of national reconciliation, a unified, sovereign, and nonaligned Afghanistan, whose people have the right to determine their disunity without external intervention. They support the efforts of the Republic of Afghanistan to achieve these aims.

10. In light of the results of the 11th conference of the heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries, which was held in Belgrade, the essential contribution the Nonaligned Movement makes to the solution of current outstanding problems was stressed. The ministers underlined their states' resolve to extend and deepen the cooperation with the Nonaligned Movement.

11. At the meeting the general yearning was clear to continue to develop the multifaceted equal cooperation of the allied states.

The meeting passed off in an atmosphere of friendly mutual understanding and cooperation.

The next scheduled meeting takes place in Bucharest.

'Comradely' Session Ends

PM2710200289 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
28 Oct 89 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Session Ends"]

[Text] Warsaw, 27 Oct—The session of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee, which ended today, took place in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual understanding, and comradely cooperation.

A joint communique was adopted, which is being published in the press.

On the same day M. Rakowski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee, had a meeting with the participants in the session. The talk took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

CEMA Meeting on Communications Concludes

LD2710212789 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1147 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Budapest, 27 Oct (TASS)—The latest session of the CMEA standing commission on cooperation in the field of electronic and postal communications has ended in the town of Balatonaliga. Delegations of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Hungary, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the GDR, the Republic of Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the USSR and the CSSR, as well as a delegation of the SFRY, took part.

The commission considered a program for the development and further improvement of an inter-linked automated integrated communications system - IAICS [vzaimouvyazannaya avtomatizirovannaya kompleksnaya sistema svyazi—VAKSS] - of the CEMA member-countries to carry all types of information for the period up to the year 2000 and the more distant future.

The commission considered the progress and results of work to establish satellite communications and television broadcasting. Specific Measures were defined to render assistance to the Republic of Cuba to develop more rapidly and effectively electronic and postal communications.

The commission outlined the prospects for cooperation between the CEMA member-countries and the SFRY for the period 1991-95 in postal communications and press dissemination.

In considering the points on the agenda, the commission paid attention to issues connected with the social orientation of cooperation in the field of electronic and postal communications.

CEMA Executive Committee Issues Communique

LD2810130389 Moscow TASS in English 1257 GMT
28 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—The CMEA executive committee held its 132nd meeting here between October 26 and 28. It was chaired by Bulgarian representative Andrey Lukanov.

In connection with the forthcoming 45th sitting of the CMEA session, the executive committee reviewed documents to be submitted for endorsement by the session.

It examined the draft main provisions of the integrated concept of restructuring the mechanism of multilateral cooperation and socialist economic integration and activity of the CMEA, as well as the plan of measures to restructure this mechanism for a period ending in 1995.

It also discussed the state of cooperation of CMEA member countries in setting up specialized and joint production of the means of computing technology, including software.

The meeting also examined the draft CMEA guidelines in the field of nature conservation until the year 2010.

The committee examined CMEA cooperation with international organizations.

The representatives of CMEA member countries also met with Henry Ruiz, Nicaragua's minister for foreign economic cooperation. In accordance with the goals and spirit of the September 16, 1983 agreement on cooperation between the CMEA and Nicaragua, prospects for further extension of this cooperation were discussed.

The executive committee decided to start an official publication, the CMEA Herald, which will carry official documents and information on the CMEA activity.

TASS Reports Perfiliev 27 Oct News Briefing**Upcoming Krenz Visit**

LD2710145389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1407 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 October (TASS)—At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, Egon Krenz, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and chairman of the GDR state Council, will go to the Soviet Union on a working visit at the end of October and beginning of November this year. Vadim Perfiliev, first deputy head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, informed us about this today at a briefing.

The diplomat noted the stable character of the development of political relations between the two countries and stressed that bilateral dialogue at all levels is distinguished by a high intensity and by substantiveness.

In 1986, continued the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, an agreement was reached at the summit level on giving bilateral relations a new quality, an agreement which was made more concrete in the course of subsequent contacts in 1988 and 1989. Its realization is being promoted by a marked expansion of the treaty basis of relations, and by the signing of a number of important interparty, intergovernment, and interdepartmental agreements and arrangements which provide new impetuses and a promising direction to the cooperation between the USSR and the GDR.

U.S. Statement on Military Bases

LD2710151789 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Moscow will study with interest yesterday's statement by the U.S. Department of State, which expresses in a cautious form U.S. readiness to discuss with the USSR the issue of reducing military bases on foreign territory, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a news briefing here today.

Vadim Perfiliev said that if these statements correspond to reality, a more realistic approach by the current U.S. Administration to such important issues as military bases and foreign presence on foreign territories can be expected.

He expressed the hope that Washington's position on this issue will be specified shortly, thus paving the way for a serious discussion of these problems, which affect not only the Soviet Union and the U.S. but also many other countries.

U.S. Embargo Against Nicaragua

LD2710153189 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The U.S. Administration's reported reluctance to lift its embargo against

Nicaragua on the grounds that the Central American country constitutes a threat to the national security of the United States is causing concern in the Soviet Union, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vadim Perfiliev said at a briefing here today.

One can only regret, the spokesman said, that Washington, having renounced the use of armed force against Nicaragua, persists in its economic pressure against that country with this one result—additional deprivations for the people of that long-suffering country.

U.S. policy vis-a-vis Nicaragua is clearly at variance with the spirit of the times, perfiliev said.

UN Decision on Western Sahara

LD2710161989 Moscow TASS in English 1542 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Moscow takes a positive view of the consensus reached by the U.N. General Assembly on a Western Sahara draft resolution, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vadim Perfiliev said at a briefing here today.

The Soviet Union perceives the resolution as a new step toward untangling the Western Sahara knot through a balance of interests of all the countries involved, said Perfiliev.

The Soviet position on Western Sahara is well known—there is no alternative to a political settlement of the conflict, the spokesman said.

The Soviet Union welcomes the integration processes gathering momentum in the Arab Maghreb and supports the U.N. and OAU plan for a Western Sahara settlement as well as their peace efforts.

Lately Moscow repeatedly expressed its satisfaction with the positive developments towards a solution to the problem.

In regard to the unanimous adoption of the draft resolution by the U.N. Decolonisation Committee, and Morocco's and the Polisario Front's agreement to the U.N. and OAU proposed referendum on the Western Saharan people's self-determination, according to the spokesman, they improve the chances for a political settlement.

Repression Against Afghan Refugees

LD2710162789 Moscow TASS in English 1547 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Protest against the continuation of war in Afghanistan is growing in Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan. Contrary to the Geneva Accords, many Afghan refugees are forcibly detained in Pakistan.

Afghan refugees express indignation over their maltreatment by extremist Afghan leaders, members of the

Pakistani special services and foreign advisers, said Vadim Perfilyev, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, at a briefing here today.

He said that the prestige of the lawful government of the Republic of Afghanistan is on the rise.

Repressive measures are taken against those who favour the lawful Afghan Government, Perfilyev said.

According to competent bodies of the Republic of Afghanistan, some 33 thousand Afghan refugees have been arrested over the past ten years on various charges by the Pakistani special services.

Some advisers have demanded that opposition units find, destroy, or hand over to them all refugees who sympathise with the Afghan Government.

A large reward is paid for each "supporter of Kabul".

As a result, heads of bands, seeking gain, hand over to foreign advisers not only patriotically-minded Afghans but also any person they happen to seize.

Foreign advisers seize Afghan women and force them into prostitution, which amounts to slave trade, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Observer Status in GATT, IMF

LD2710172389 Moscow TASS in english 1657 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—The Soviet Union received with satisfaction President Mitterand's statement on the feasibility of granting the Soviet Union observer status with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vadim Perfilyev said at a briefing here today.

He said that the USSR's policy of economic restructuring aims, among other important objectives, to invigorate the country's participation in the international division of labour on the principles of the international trading system. The USSR's observer status in GATT, Perfilyev said, will better acquaint it with the principles and traditions of that organisation's activity and prepare it for full-fledged membership. The USSR's participation in GATT will, in the final analysis, enhance the GATT's universality which is, doubtless, in the interests of all its participants.

Cocom Reaffirms Stand on 'Strategic' Goods

LD2710123489 Moscow TASS in English 1216 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Paris October 27 TASS—By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Krivykh:

The Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) has reaffirmed its tough stand on deliveries of "strategic" goods and technologies to socialist states.

It was stressed here at a session of the Cocom Executive Committee, comprising all NATO members except Iceland, as well as Japan and Australia, that Western strategic interests remain prevalent. The Executive Committee "took note" of democratic changes in socialist countries.

The session's agenda included a demand of several West European countries, including FRG and Italy, to ease the existing controls against socialist countries. They pointed out that Cocom, an organisation set up during the Cold War, no longer conformed to the new international climate, failed to reckon with changes going on in the socialist countries. All this obstructs the development of normal commercial and economic relations with them.

The United States, Great Britain and France were cautious about lifting barriers, believing that the military threat faced by the West had not defused.

Commenting on the results of the Paris session, the newspaper liberation notes that most West Europeans demand that existing controls be updated in recognition of changes taking place in east European countries.

"The processes in East Europe," the newspaper believes, "call for new approaches. Many Western companies are showing interest in expanding trade with socialist nations. But Cocom controls are a roadblock to its development".

'Conflicts' Among COCOM Members Noted

LD2710195189 Moscow TASS in English 1021 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Paris October 27 TASS—By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Krivykh:

The Executive Committee of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (COCOM) has ended its two-day session in the French capital. The committee, set up by Western countries during the cold war, groups NATO countries, except for Iceland, as well as Japan and Australia.

The session discussed cuts in the lists of goods banned for export to socialist countries and the easing of bans on trade with Hungary and Poland. On the eve of the meeting, observers predicted it would differ from previous ones.

The changes in socialist countries under the influence of perestroika in the Soviet Union have softened the positions of some COCOM members, above all in Western Europe.

However, French newspapers say today, the meeting did not quite live up to expectations. The committee, pressurized by the United States, reiterated its former policy, saying the "strategic interests" of the West should continue to be given priority in the committee's activity.

As regards the reforms in Eastern Europe, the committee only "took them into account."

Commenting on the session, the newspaper LIBERATION points to serious conflicts between COCOM

members. The United States has taken a tough stand, refusing to cut the lists of banned goods, especially high technology, whereas most West Europeans are ready to ease the restrictions due to the reforms in East European countries.

The newspaper says the developments in Eastern Europe require a revision of the COCOM strategy. Besides, it adds, many Western companies have long shown interest in trade with socialist countries, which remains blocked by the COCOM restrictions.

United States & Canada

Former KGB Official on Antiterrorism Cooperation

LD2610220189 Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT
26 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—"Every state has secrets of its own to guard. But it is in everyone's interests to single out those among the secrets which can help avert crimes," said General Fedor Scherbak, former head of a KGB Department.

He was speaking, in an interview with the Soviet weekly "NEW TIMES", about the recent meeting in Santa Monica, California, of former top officials of the Soviet and U.S. intelligence agencies. The retired chiefs met to discuss ways to combat terrorism.

The two special services have already had some positive experience in joint actions against terrorism, it was noted during the interview.

But those were casual contacts. The U.S. services turned to the Soviet Union for assistance in the investigation of some cases, including in Lebanon. They asked the Soviet to act through relevant bodies in Syria, Iran and some other countries to help achieve the release of hostages.

The Soviet side used trips of Soviet leaders to some regions, including the United States, to pass to American special services information on terrorist organizations, individual terrorists and mafia groups acting in one or another region.

Specialists in both countries can already suggest effective ways to combat terrorism. That terrorists are now extremely well-armed calls for updating techniques to counter their activities, including such new varieties as nuclear terrorism and terrorism based on the use of biological and chemical weapons.

An issue of special concern for the nations is technoterrorism—with missile technologies in the hands of terrorists. At Santa Monica the Soviet delegation raised the issue and insisted that the Soviet Union and the United States must not sell arms to any organizations but state ones to avert the possibility of the use of these arms by terrorists.

Proposals were also made to exchange technologies for detecting explosives and to assist each other in the investigation of subversive acts in civil aviation.

Scherbak voiced support for the idea of establishing a U.N. agency to combat terrorism.

Primakov, Supreme Soviet Delegation Tour U.S.

Arrival, Start of Visit

PM3010125389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Morning Edition p5

[TASS report: "USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation in the United States"]

[Text] Washington, 26 Oct—A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, arrived in the American capital on Wednesday on an official visit at the invitation of congressional leaders. The delegation was met at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington by George Mitchell, leader of the Democratic majority, and Robert Dole, leader of the Republican minority in the Senate. Yu.V. Dubinin, Soviet ambassador to the United States, was among those present.

Welcoming the Soviet guests, G. Mitchell said that the American people have been following the changes in the Soviet Union in recent years with great interest. "It gives us particular pleasure," he said, "to welcome you as the first official delegation of the newly elected USSR Supreme Soviet to visit the United States. This event is clear evidence of the impressive changes taking place in the Soviet Union today and is proof of the improved relations between our countries. Welcome to the United States!"

We warmly welcome you, R. Dole said in turn. It is a great honor for us to receive such a high-ranking delegation of Soviet parliamentarians in the United States. The winds of fresh changes can be felt both in your country and in American-Soviet relations. The arrival of a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation reflects these changes. In the course of your visit we will not only discuss important issues but also get to know one another better, which will be to the good of our two countries and peoples.

Ye.M. Primakov expressed gratitude to the congressional leaders for their cordial welcome to American soil. We have come here, he stressed, to discuss important problems with our American colleagues, such as the stabilization of the international situation and the development of relations between our countries. The last 4 and ½ years in our country's life have been filled with new substance; these have been years of the renewal of Soviet society, restructuring, and the adoption of new political thinking. They have been years which have introduced qualitatively new features into American-Soviet relations.

We look to the future with optimism, Ye.M. Primakov said, and express the hope that our visit will play a great, constructive role in the task of improving Soviet-U.S. relations and will make a useful contribution to stabilizing international relations.

The Soviet parliamentarians will have meetings with members of Congress and representatives of the American administration in Washington and will tour the country. They will visit Maine, Kansas, California, and New York state.

During their U.S. visit the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation members will be exchanging opinions with their American colleagues on a whole range of issues concerning Soviet-American relations and on questions connected with broadening contacts and exchanges between the two countries' parliamentarians.

Primakov Activities in Washington

PM2710205089 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
28 Oct 89 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Positive Development"]

[Text] Washington, 27 Oct—U.S. President G. Bush received Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union and candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, in the White House on Thursday. He is head of a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation which is here at the invitation of the leadership of the U.S. Congress. In the course of the talk questions of the development of Soviet-American relations and the expansion of contacts at the parliamentary level between the two countries were discussed.

USSR People's Deputies I.O. Bisher and A.A. Sobchak; Yu.V. Dubinin, USSR ambassador to the United States; U.S. Vice President D. Quayle; White House Chief of Staff J. Sununu; and B. Scowcroft, the president's national security adviser, were present at the meeting.

The meeting with the President took place in an amicable atmosphere, Ye.M. Primakov told journalists after the meeting, and this will promote the present stage of positive development in USSR-U.S. relations. We can move forward together in resolving a number of international problems.

President Bush wished perestroika in the USSR success. He expressed the hope that the forthcoming Soviet-American summit meeting will be fruitful.

During the talk, the head of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation went on, the need to strengthen ties between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the U.S. Congress was noted.

On the same day the Soviet delegation had a talk with U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker. The mutual desire was expressed to invest Soviet-American relations with new content, and in particular the question of the normalization of trade and economic relations between the two countries was touched on.

The Soviet parliamentarians visited the Capitol, where there was an official ceremony to present the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation to the American legislators.

To applause from the auditorium, G. Mitchell, leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, stated: "We welcome the Soviet parliamentary delegation and express the hope that its arrival in the United States will serve to extend contacts between the two countries." R. Dole, leader of the Republican minority in the Senate, for his part expressed the hope that the parliamentarians of the USSR and the United States will "act together for the sake of peace throughout the world."

Concrete proposals were made with the aim of boosting parliamentary ties between the two countries. Thus G. Mitchell described as "extremely interesting" the idea of setting up special working parties attached to committees of the Congress and the USSR Supreme Soviet to discuss such topical problems as security and the growth of trust between the American and Soviet peoples, environmental conservation, and developments along the path of scientific and technical progress.

Ye.M. Primakov spoke of the present stage of perestroika in the USSR, the main avenues of transformations now under way, and their progress. The American legislators were briefed on the activity of the newly elected USSR Supreme Soviet aimed at the further democratization of Soviet society, the deepening of glasnost, the building of a socialist rule-of-law state, and the development of Soviet federalism.

The same evening a reception was held in the National Gallery in honor of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, at which leaders of the U.S. Congress and Ye.M. Primakov exchanged brief speeches of greetings.

Gorbachev Message to Bush

LD2810231189 Moscow Television Service
in Russian 1800 GMT 28 Oct 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast: report by Correspondent V. Zorin]

[Text] The official visit to the United States by a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet is continuing.

[V. Zorin] U.S. political observers are evaluating what is taking place in Washington these days as an important continuation of high-level Soviet-U.S. contacts. The visit to the United States by deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet is being regarded here not as a protocol visit or as an act of courtesy, although I must say that there has been an excellent degree of courtesy during the discussions that have taken place, unlike occurrences which sometimes take place at home in our country. This visit is being seen as a considerable expansion of dialogue, of Soviet-U.S. contacts, in which not only statesmen and ministers are taking part now, but also influential parliamentarians from our two countries.

This is precisely how the thorough conversation—which has attracted a great deal of attention—between a group of deputies headed by Comrade Primakov, who were invited to the White House, and President Bush and his advisers is now being seen in the U.S. capital's political

circles. During the meeting, the head of the Soviet delegation delivered to George Bush a personal message from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. A large group of journalists awaited the Soviet deputies as they left the Oval Office in the White House.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent B. Kalyagin] Yevgeniy Maksimovich, how was your meeting with the President?

[Primakov] It was a very warm meeting. I think that President Bush is well-informed. Regarding the internal development of the Soviet Union, he comes out indisputably in favor of the restructuring processes. He believes this is important not only for our country, but for the stabilization of the situation in the world in general and for the world as a whole. I am very pleased by this conversation. I think that overall it enabled us to exchange opinions on a whole range of issues, including issues of bilateral relations.

[Kalyagin] Did you give the President a message from the general secretary?

[Primakov] I gave the President a message from the general secretary which was accepted with great attention, so to speak. I know that it will give rise to very great interest. Naturally, the summit meeting that is to take place next year was discussed. The President said that the caution ascribed to him is directed primarily toward better preparing public opinion for the success of that meeting. [end recording]

[Zorin] There was a conversation between the USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and U.S. senators. The participants spoke in favor of expanding links between the parliamentarians of the two countries and of transferring them to a regular basis. This also was discussed at a joint press conference of Soviet and U.S. legislators. The leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties in the U.S. Senate, George Mitchell and Robert Dole, noted in particular that the current discussion was of a constructive nature and that it had been fruitful. The senators saw in this the influence of the policy of perestroika on international relations. For the first time in the history of Soviet-U.S. parliamentary meetings, a joint communique was adopted. The parliamentarians of the two countries are to assist the development of relations of cooperation between the USSR and the United States, this statement says.

Delegation's Arrival in Maine

LD2910145489 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0726 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Portland, Maine 29 October—By TASS Special Correspondent Igor Borisenko:

The Soviet parliament delegation, led by Yevgeniy Primakov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of the Union, visiting the United States at the invitation of Congress leaders, arrived from Washington in Bangor, Maine.

This city with a dynamically developing industry has been maintaining cultural contacts with the Soviet Union for several years now: Maine State University implements a programme for cultural exchanges with Kharkov State University and research centres of Moscow and Leningrad.

At the airport the delegation members as well as Yuriy Dubinin, Soviet ambassador to the United States, who accompanied them on the trip, were welcomed by Bangor Mayor Mary Sullivan.

On behalf of all cityfolk allow me to convey the warmest wishes to you, she said.

At a news conference on the occasion of the Soviet delegation's arrival, George Mitchell, leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, voiced deep satisfaction with the fact that he could welcome Soviet parliamentarians in his native state.

Ties of friendship and understanding should bring our two countries together, Senator William Cohen said. Only in this way it is possible to reduce the risk of war. For too long and too often did we see each other in a distorted mirror, which resulted in mutual mistrust. The current visit by the Soviet parliamentary delegation is yet another step towards improving relations between the two countries, he said.

Yevgeniy Primakov, upon having thanked the Bangor people for the warm welcome, pointed out the need to broaden and deepen contacts between the parliamentarians and peoples of the two countries. Let us together be guided by the ideas of peace and cooperation, which will enable us to avoid military confrontation, he said. Our common interests are in a desire to ease international tension, to stabilize the international situation, and develop relations between the two countries.

He said the beginning of the deepening and broadening of Soviet-American contacts was set at the Soviet-U.S. summit. A new impetus to the process will be given at the Soviet-U.S. summit, Primakov emphasized. The two sides can do much to curb the arms race, to remove the ecological threat, and to solve other global problems. Although we are faced with many problems, we look into the future with optimism, he said.

We seek to establish such contacts so that there will be fewer and fewer secrets, including military ones, in relations between the two countries, A.N. Kraiko, a member of the delegation, added.

The problems of international trade are not a little important for Bangor. It is no wonder, therefore, that journalists attending the news conference took particular interest in prospects for the development of trade and economic relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

How important are trade issues on the Soviet-U.S. agenda? asked one of local journalists, recalling the

existence of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment which sets tough restrictions on trade with the Soviet Union.

Senator Mitchell recalled that he advocates the suspension of the amendment.

The abrogation of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment would lead not only to the development of trade and economic relations but also to a considerable improvement of Soviet-American relations as a whole, Primakov said.

That day the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation arrived in Portland, a major industrial center of the state. At a ceremonial reception organized at the Portland Arts Museum where President Bush's daughter Dorothy Leblond was present, Senator G. Mitchell said: "For decades we have been enemies, but now the time has come to realize we can cooperate." Let us work out those draft laws which will be useful in the future, he remarked, addressing the Soviet parliamentarians. "I wish the people of the Soviet Union success in perestroika," concluded the senator.

"Meetings with ordinary Americans have made the greatest impression on us," said Ye. M. Primakov, leader of the Soviet delegation. "Our conversations in Washington with U.S. legislators have also been very useful." Having pointed out the problem of arms control as one of the central problems in U.S.-USSR relations, the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation leader stated: "The arsenals of nuclear weapons at the disposal of our countries are too large, and we must cut these weapons. Nuclear weapons not only must not be employed, but must not threaten anyone either." These words were met with stormy applause.

That evening the delegation members visited a special charity concert organized by Portland public organizations to collect funds to aid the victims of the destructive earthquake in Armenia.

Gorbachev Greets Joint U.S. Conference

LD3010073789 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT
30 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 30 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev sent greetings to the participants in the fifth Soviet-American public conference on bilateral and international relations.

The conference opened in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on Sunday [29 October].

The message reads:

"The five-year-long record of regular meetings between representatives of the Soviet and American public has reflects the long road traversed by the governments and peoples of the two countries during this period.

"Perestroika and new thinking have enabled them to move from confrontation to mutual understanding and even to cooperation for their own benefit and for the benefit of the whole world.

"Millions of Soviet and American citizens through their numerous organisations and personal contacts have become energetic participants in this wholesome process of improving our knowledge of each other, of drawing closer together and of forming correct notions about the policies, intentions, and revival of sound interest in and sympathies for each other.

"I welcome these efforts. The goodwill contributes to the renewal of relations between our two great peoples. I wish your conference success."

China

CPC To Discuss Deng's Resignation

OW2810223589 Moscow International Service
in Mandarin 1400 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The 5th Plenary Session of the 13th CPC Central Committee will be convened soon, Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, has said. At a meeting with visiting Western Samoan Prime Minister Alesana in Beijing, he said the plenary session will examine primarily the question of the path for furthering China's economic development.

Earlier, Jiang Zemin had said that the CPC Central Committee and the Chinese people planned to discuss and solve the question of Deng Xiaoping's resignation as chairman of the Central Military Commission. He pointed out that Deng Xiaoping had expressed repeatedly the hope that the present CPC leaders would undertake the responsibilities of the whole party and the whole nation.

Beijing Daily Hails Achievements of Socialism

PM2610143989 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 24 Oct 89 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Article in BEIJING RIBAO"]

[Text] Socialism is the only possible way for China to develop and prosper, the capital's newspaper, BEIJING RIBAO, writes.

The whole history of the PRC's development shows that it is socialism that has provided a powerful stimulus for the country's advance in all spheres of socioeconomic and political development. All the greatest successes of our country and the people are due to socialism. Thanks to reform and the policy of expanding ties with the rest of the world it has been possible to considerably increase the people's living standard and strengthen the national economy.

The choice we have made, namely, the building of specifically Chinese socialism, is the right one, BEIJING RIBAO stresses in conclusion.

PRC Trade Union Chairman on Recent Visit

*OW2510092589 Moscow International Service
in Mandarin 1400 GMT 14 Oct 89*

[Report: "President of All-China Federation of Trade Unions Ni Zhifu on the Results of His Soviet Visit"—from the "On the Path to Friendship and Cooperation" program]

[Text] It was the first formal friendly visit to the Soviet Union by the head of the Chinese trade union organization in over 20 years. The tight schedule of the 1-week visit included discussions on formulating ways to further cooperation between the Soviet and Chinese workers organizations.

The Chinese trade union delegation, headed by Ni Zhifu, was received by Vitaliy Ivanovich Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee. They held a friendly talk with Stepan Alekseyevich Shalayev, chairman of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions. The Chinese guests familiarized themselves with the ongoing political and economic reforms in the Soviet Union. They showed great interest in the role of the Soviet trade unions in the Soviet reform and their activities. The delegation also toured Kiev and Leningrad, visited enterprises in Moscow, and met with workers and trade union cadres in the capital.

Ni Zhifu and his entourage returned to China recently. Prior to the Chinese delegation's departure from Moscow, this station's reporter (Sinitliyev) interviewed Ni Zhifu and asked him to give his impression about the country and the results of his visit.

[Begin Ni Zhifu recording] Our friendly visit to the Soviet Union draws to an end today. The outcome of this visit is very substantial, given the fact that our two countries' trade unions restored their relations just 4 years ago. Though a short visit, I have been left with a very profound impression about your country. We visited several factories, toured some scenic and historical sites, and learned about the achievements of your social reforms. I was impressed very much during a meeting with some activists. We briefed them on China's economic and political reform, as well as those taking place within the Chinese trade unions themselves. I was moved very deeply by the keen interest which they showed. I also was very touched by the sincere friendly feelings which the people showed us wherever we went, be it Kiev, Leningrad, or Moscow. The factory workers we talked to all expressed an eagerness to score new successes for the socialist orientation.

I extended an invitation to Comrade Shalayev to visit China at his convenience. The talk with Comrade Shalayev went very well. We exchanged opinions and plan to step up cooperation between our two countries' trade unions in the future. Comrade Yakovlev, in yesterday's meeting, also expressed the hope that the trade unions of

our two countries will enhance their contacts and cooperation. The meetings between the leading comrades of our two parties and countries during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to China last May brought about the normalization of relations between our two parties and countries and boosted the relations between both countries' trade unions. [end recording]

Northeast Asia

Scholar on Japan Dispute, ROK UN Entry

*OW2810111689 Tokyo KYODO in English 1025 GMT
28 Oct 89*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 KYODO—A Soviet academician visiting South Korea said Saturday the territorial dispute with Japan does not hold high priority in the Soviet Union.

George F. Kunadze, a section chief at the Institute of World Economic and International Relations of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, made the remark in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

Kunadze said he does not agree with the argument that there will be no perestroika in Soviet diplomacy unless the so-called "northern territories"—islands off Hokkaido occupied by the Soviet Union since 1945—are returned to Japanese rule.

He added, however, that he does not think the Soviet stance that there exists no territorial dispute between the two countries is constructive.

Japanese, if they went there, would see there is no military base on the Soviet-held southern Kuril Islands, or even if there is, it is negligible in scale, Kunadze said, stressing it is important for each side to acknowledge there exist differences in their positions.

Kunadze is scheduled to leave Seoul on Sunday for a two-day lecture tour of Japan.

Turning to Soviet-South Korean relations, Kunadze said that, in his personal opinion, South Korea is a sovereign nation under international law and Moscow should refrain from vetoing Seoul's unilateral admission to the United Nations.

South Korea reportedly plans to apply for membership of the world body next year at the earliest.

North Korea is opposed to South Korea's admission to the U.N., claiming it would lead to the permanent division of the Korean peninsula.

Kunadze expressed the hope that the Soviet Union and South Korea would make positive efforts to normalize relations, but added he prefers a step-by-step process toward this goal.

He said North Korea still follows the path taken by the late Soviet dictator Josef Stalin economically and ideologically.

U.S.-ROK F-16 Joint Production Poses Threat

OW2910025889 *Moscow International Service*
in Mandarin 1400 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Station observer Dumov commentary]

[Text] The United States and the leaders of South Korea are taking steps to further expand military cooperation. What we are referring to here is the agreement signed during the visit of the South Korean President to the United States on jointly producing a new generation of F-16 fighter bombers in South Korea. The daily CHOSON ILBO in Seoul maintains that this agreement will become the major factor contributing to economic progress. The following is an article by station observer Dumov concerning this matter.

We shall deal with the positive factor of the agreement later. First of all, let us briefly discuss its details. The new deal mainly includes supplying 120 military aircraft with an operating radius of 1,000 kilometers. At present, South Korea's Air Force already owns scores of this kind of aircraft. The striking capabilities of the South Korean Air Force, when armed with this new type of aircraft jointly manufactured by General Dynamics Corporation of the United States and South Korea, will be multiplied by several times. As a result, South Korea will be in a position to threaten nearly all the important targets inside the territory of the DPRK as well as every important target in northern China and be able to place large areas of the waters on both Huang Hai [the Yellow Sea] and the Sea of Japan under its control without having to resort to nuclear weapons. These are the details of the new deal.

Now let us discuss the positive factor involved. What stimulation can the deal directly bring about? Organizing new production departments, of course, means providing a large number of job opportunities. Every newspaper in South Korea has underscored this point. However, so far as I am concerned, I am of the opinion that this argument is not justifiable. The phenomenon of unemployment is not serious in South Korea and does not pose any threat to their economy. South Korea cannot expect to increase its export volume through joint military production because the requirements and restrictions imposed by the Americans are very strict. None of the aircraft equipped and assembled by the General Dynamics Corporation in South Korea is permitted to be exported to foreign countries.

What stimulating role can the deal then play? I believe that the deal can only stimulate one thing, that is, the arms race. An arms race can only exacerbate tension on the Korean Peninsula. We might as well do some analysis of the situation. For instance, how will Pyongyang react to the incessant expansion of the striking power of the South Korean Air Force? We believe that, under the

circumstances, the DPRK will have no other alternative but to take corresponding countermeasures. This is the logic of the arms race, which has been borne out recently. The consequences of this kind of race can only lead to completely dashing the hope cherished by the Korean people for success in the political dialogue between the North and the South.

I am not sure what objectives Washington is after regarding the Korean issue. Is it that Washington aims at further tightening its control over the military and political situations in South Korea? It may be that the United States expects to reap some handsome profit from the other party, which is well able to render payment. Of course, it may also be that the United States intends to look upon the Pacific as an inland lake inside its territory. Of course, this is very hard to tell. So far as I am concerned, what is of greater importance is the fact that Washington aims to eliminate the proposal for peaceful cooperation which had begun to sprout on Korean soil by instigating South Korea to conclude the deal.

S. Korea Military Balance Stand Not Constructive

SK2710090289 *Moscow International Service*
in Korean 1100 GMT 26 Oct 89

[From the Feature Program]

[Text] The DPRK and South Korea have resumed contact between their parliamentarians. At a meeting held some time ago at Panmunjom, the delegates from Pyongyang and Seoul agreed in principle to hold joint North-South parliamentary talks in order to work out a nonaggression treaty between the DPRK and South Korea.

This radio station's commentator (Urik Alekseyev) wrote the following on this issue:

Ties between the parliamentarians were the (?objective) of their talks. Pyongyang had put forward a long time ago a proposal for holding a full, joint meeting whose participants would include parliamentarians and representatives of political parties and public organizations in the North and the South for the purpose of concluding a mutual nonaggression treaty.

The fact that views and opinions similar to those of Pyongyang have been recently accepted creates (?trust) of the people.

The conclusion of a mutual nonaggression treaty will serve as an important factor in stabilizing the overall situation on the Korean peninsula and in the Far East. However, despite such indisputable merits of the treaty, it is believed that this treaty alone cannot fully resolve the issue of completely liquidating the danger of a military clash on the Korean peninsula.

For the complete solution of this problem, joint measures are necessary to basically lower the level of military confrontation on the Korean peninsula.

Regrettably, however, Seoul has not shown its intent to resolve this question in a constructive manner. Undoubtedly the basic element causing the prevailing military confrontation on the Korean peninsula is the occupation of the southern part of Korea by 43,000 U.S. troops.

The fact that the U.S. troops in South Korea have nuclear weapons increases the danger. Those who support the occupation of South Korea by U.S. troops attribute their support to the possibility of a southward invasion. Such an assertion is not, however, even worthy of (?discussion). This is even more true if one recalls Pyongyang's proposal that 100,000 troops each from the armed forces of the North and the South be cut by the end of 1991.

The DPRK has already reduced its armed forces unilaterally (?on a large scale.) Pyongyang's proposal that a nuclear-free, peace zone be established on the Korean peninsula gave rise to a broad range of affirmative repercussion. The act of continuously putting forward, despite this, an outdated theory of southward invasion is not (?reasonable).

South Korean President No Tae-u, who visited the United States some time ago, attempted to justify the occupation of South Korea by U.S. troops with the theory of southward invasion. In a word, we cannot say that Seoul's position toward the military balance is constructive.

The times are changing, and the peaceful dialogue between the North and the South is in (?progress).

DPRK Economic Scholar Backs Soviet Reform

*SK2810115089 Moscow International Service
in Korean 1330 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Radio talk from the "Reform" feature]

[Text] Comrade Chong Chong-ki, director of the Research Institute for World Economy and South-South Cooperation of the DPRK Academy of Social Science who came to our country upon the invitation of the Research Institute of Economy of the World Socialist System, a subordinate organization of the Soviet Academy of Science, has participated in our radio program.

The reporter of this radio station asked Comrade director Chong Chong-ki to answer questions as to how he evaluates the reform work carried out in the Soviet Union.

[Begin Chong recording] Visiting the Soviet Union, I came to realize that the reform work in the Soviet Union has been carried out in depth by the Soviet party and government. Today, the Soviet people have entered a historic turning point while carrying out the reform work on a large scale in all sectors including politics, the economy, and culture.

I believe that the reform work, carried out amid great interest and active participation of the Soviet people, is earnestly required for further accelerating vigorously the

socialist and communist construction in the Soviet Union. In order to (?advance) the revolution and construction, the work system and method should be constantly improved. Only by so doing, can we more vigorously accelerate the socialist and communist construction.

I also firmly believe that the reform work carried out in the Soviet Union will further consolidate the socialist system and will effectively contribute to expediting the victory of the socialist and communist cause—Lenin's cause—by highly demonstrating the superiority of the socialist system. [End recording]

Foreign publications put forward various views and comments on the works carried out in our country. It is also important to hear about the opinions of the economic scholar of the DPRK. For example, some commentators evaluate the reform work carried out in our country as a retreat from socialism. Some other people even view the reform as a long, painful (?return) to capitalism.

However, those who have such views will be disappointed. Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that the reform in our country will not be carried out in a capitalist way, and most of the Soviet people will have the same view.

Instead of discarding socialism, we pursue genuine socialism based on the essential consideration of humanism. This is the very basic task of the reform. Through this task, a change in economic direction will take place to improve the people's living standard and democracy will develop. Also, new laws and decrees will be prepared for ensuring the social equality.

We are well aware that we must endure a long, difficult path and we also believe that successes will be attained. We were pleased to hear about such views by professor Chong Chong-ki, economic scholar of the DPRK.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

U.S. Urged to Heed 'Sober Voices' on Cambodia

*LD2510180189 Moscow TASS in English 1726 GMT
25 Oct 89*

[Text] Moscow October 25 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov:

The only thing that hampers a political settlement to the Cambodian problem is the sabotage of national reconciliation by Khmer opposition groups.

Taking advantage of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia, they are trying to ensure "on the war path" advantages at the resumption of a dialogue on aspects of Cambodian settlement by opposing Cambodian parties.

Their efforts are indicated by allegations made by representatives of Cambodian opposition about "victories" in

battles against the Cambodian People's Army and "Defeats" of government troops in the West of Cambodia.

Broad military support was given to the opposition's combat operations by people who paid lip service to "comprehensive political settlement". Such facts are not concealed. Quite the contrary, they are advertised in every way.

There are reports that the U.S. has increased the arms supply to opposition groups and has provided them with photographs of government troop positions taken from space. There are also reports that Pentagon instructors train armed units of the opposition.

Not only leaders of armed units of Sihanouk and Son Sann, but also Pol Pot supporters boast of increased supplies of new armaments and better transportation. Members of the Pol Pot clique make no secret that they want to seize power again.

And it should be noted that Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Cambodia was connected with the prevention of a return to power by Pol Pot supporters and with the termination of military aid to anti-government forces.

Now that the dry season is getting in, the opposition may escalate combat operations. Consequences will follow. It is high time that the forces of the international community put an end to any military aid to Cambodian parties.

An outbreak of civil war in Cambodia should be prevented. It is necessary to put an end to all military operations and to resume a political dialogue between the warring sides.

Not only friends of the State of Cambodia, but also friends and allies of the United States call for this. Talking with a group of Thai parliamentarians who returned from a trip to Cambodia, Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan called for an end to aid to the Khmer parties involved in the conflict.

The parliamentarians asked the prime minister to raise the question during his visit to Beijing and Washington.

Australian Ambassador to Thailand Richard Butler expressed decisive support for the Thai prime minister's stand. He emphasized that following the Vietnamese troop withdrawal, all military aid to Khmer parties should be terminated and ceasefire should be called.

The ambassador expressed the hope that the U.S. will change its stand on the Cambodian question and said that its present stand cannot be regarded as realistic.

One can only wish that Washington will heed these sober voices.

Impact of Cambodian Resistance Victory Viewed

BK2810101489 Moscow in Cambodia to Cambodia
1230 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Station commentator Oleg Shchedrov's commentary]

[Text] Fighting between government forces and opposition groups continues in the western region of Cambodia. The Pol Pot group recently made public the occupation of Pailin, adjoining the Thai border, and Phnom Penh has not denied this report. In this connection, our commentator, Comrade Oleg Shchedrov, has the following to say:

Pol Pot propaganda presents the occupation of Pailin as a success at talks on ruling the country. [sentence as heard] We wish to recall that Phnom Penh has rejected the participation of the Pol Pot group—which was stained with the blood of over 3 millions people—in a future Cambodian coalition government under any form. We do not believe that the insignificant success scored by the Pol Pot group could change the government's attitude. However, nobody can be sure that the other two opposition groups, which are constantly jealous of their ally, will abstain from taking their chances. In fact, their intensified military operations are aimed at seeking sanctuaries in Cambodian territory. This is very dangerous, because it has expunged the resolutions adopted at the Paris international conference on Cambodia to settle the conflict by political means with the aim of restoring peace in Cambodia. At present, many countries, chiefly Indonesia and Thailand, are making great efforts to bring the contending Cambodian parties to the negotiating table again.

It is worth remembering that heavy artillery will certainly not create favorable conditions [for peace talks].

Can the development of the danger be avoided? I raised this question with the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The chairman of the Cambodian Department, Comrade (Nikolay Isaki), via telephone answered: The Soviet position is to arrive at an international accord on the cessation of foreign military aid to the warring Cambodian factions. In our opinion, this is an effective measure to avoid conflict and the eruption of a civil war. Although no agreement was reached, the Soviet Union has proposed the termination of the aid. We are confident that the decision would contribute to bringing about a cease-fire in Cambodia and creating favorable conditions for the resumption of talks among the Cambodian parties.

Comrade (Nikolay Isaki) further said that, in principle, the necessity for ending arms supplies was advocated at the Soviet-Chinese and Soviet-U.S. talks. Washington and Beijing, however, linked the resolutions to a comprehensive settlement. What can be done if the fighting creates unavoidable obstacles? Comrade Oleg Shchedrov writes in conclusion that the current situation in Cambodia necessitates a revision of attitudes.

Near East & South Asia

'Opposition' Rockets Kill 10 Kabul Citizens

LD2810155989 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT
28 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul October 28 TASS—The irreconcilable opposition today fired 44 rockets into the residential quarters of the Afghan capital killing ten and wounding 34 people.

Extremists Fire 40 Missiles at Kabul Airport

LD2910152489 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1505 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Kabul, 29 Oct (TASS)—The Afghan capital came under missile attack once more today, when extremists fired around 40 rocket missiles at Kabul International Airport and residential areas of the city. There are civilian casualties.

Afghanistan Solidarity Meeting Held in Moscow

PM2610141389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
26 Oct 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Day of Solidarity"]

[Text] A 25 October meeting of representatives of Moscow's public at the House of the Unions was devoted to the Day of Solidarity with the Afghan People.

R.A. Bazarova, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the other speakers noted that the Soviet people are seriously concerned about the situation in Afghanistan, with which we have enjoyed stable good-neighborliness for more than 70 years. It was stated that the Afghan extremist opposition closely linked with Pakistan and the United States is to blame for the continuing war. The speakers stressed that the Soviet Union continues to give Afghanistan comprehensive aid and assistance in defending the republic and in economic and cultural development.

Those present adopted a message to the Afghan public reaffirming Soviet people's solidarity with the struggle of the friendly country's people for a peaceful and happy life. Confidence was expressed that the national reconciliation policy pursued by the Afghan leadership will help to put an end to the bloodshed, and that peace and prosperity will prevail in that long-suffering land.

S.M. Gulabzoy, Afghan ambassador to the USSR, referred with gratitude to the support given to his people by the Soviet Union. The USSR's role in strengthening solidarity with Afghanistan in the international arena has been immense, the ambassador stressed.

The leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and representatives of party, soviet, and social organizations and the clergy took part in the meeting.

Afghan Vice President Abdurrahim Hatif was present, as were diplomats from a number of foreign states accredited in Moscow.

TASS, TAP Sign Cooperation Protocol

LD2510102689 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT
25 Oct 89

[Text] Tunis October 25 TASS—A protocol on cooperation between the News Agency of the Soviet Union (TASS) and the Tunis Afrique Press (TAP) has been signed here. It envisages mutual visits of journalists and technicians to exchange experience, and cooperation in photo information.

The protocol takes into account the recommendations of the recent fifth Tunis Arab-European Conference of News Agencies.

The protocol was signed by Deputy TASS General Director Anatoliy Krasikov and TAP Editor-in-Chief H. Zaushi.

Tarasov Meets 'Arafat, Tunisian Official

LD2910085789 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT
29 Oct 89

[Text] Tunis October 29 TASS—PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat received on October 28 Gennadiy Tarasov. An aide to the Soviet foreign minister and special representative on Middle Eastern affairs.

They held a detailed exchange of views on the situation in the region, the state and prospects of the Middle Eastern settlement, and practical steps in advancing the peace process oriented towards preparing and convening the international peace conference. The need was stressed to continue close Soviet-Palestinian interaction and coordination.

The Soviet envoy also met Tunisian secretary of state for foreign affairs, Habib Ibn-Yahia.

Soviet ambassador to Tunisia Vladimir Sobchenko was present during the meetings.

Status of Iranian Opposition Said Unclear

NC2610192089 Moscow in Persian to Iran
1500 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Yuriy Andreyev commentary from "The World Today" feature]

[Text] The Nehzat-e Azadi-ye Iran opposition organization has sent an open letter to President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani. This letter calls for the reopening of the organization's office in Tehran. It may be said that the political stance of Mehdi Bazargan, the leader of the Nehzat-e Azadi-ye Iran and former prime minister of the Islamic Republic, can be summarized as abstinence from extremism and a hardline approach. This extremely well-known social personality established his party in

1961 and since then has been enthusiastically in the forefront of political events of Iran.

Exactly 10 years ago, the Nehzat-e Azadi-ye Iran attained its greatest success when Imam Khomeyni appointed Mehdi Bazargan to head the Islamic cabinet, and members of his party gained the majority of seats in the cabinet. However, after 10 months, the first prime minister of the Islamic Republic was forced to tender his resignation. Ever since, he and his party have been in the ranks of the opposition and have evolved as moderate critics of the present Iranian leadership. It is interesting that the Nehzat-e Azadi-ye Iran was able to gain dazzling success for (itself) in a harsh political atmosphere, which was characteristic of the era when Iran was at war.

It may be recalled that in 1981 government echelons instituted stringent restrictions on political parties, and very soon Bazargan's movement became the only faction openly in opposition. In 1988, this party was officially banned. Also in that year, security forces occupied the premises of the party's offices and all its centers in the provinces were closed down.

The favorable political climate in the Islamic Republic of Iran following the end of the war between Iran and Iraq also affected the fate of the Nehzat-e Azadi-ye Iran. The leaders of this group took advantage of the government's permission for political parties to operate officially, and in March this year, they requested permission to carry out their activities openly. In practice, the movement has resumed its operations since then and it even put forward a candidate for the post of president.

A completely contradictory situation arose. On the one hand 'Abbas Sheybani, one of the Nehzat-e Azadi-ye Iran's activists, succeeded in obtaining a percentage of the votes and on the other this party has not obtained official permission to resume operations; in the words of Ebrahim Yazdi, one of the party's leaders, government authorities have so far greatly restricted the party's operations. He stressed that the government does not permit MIZAN, the party newspaper, to resume publication. This newspaper was banned in 1981. He also announced that the party does not have free access to radio, television, or most of the newspapers.

It appears that the Nehzat's open letter to 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani is a reminder of the need to make this decision. According to the evidence, the leadership of this organization is dissatisfied with the present dual policy and is seeking to exert specific pressure on the government. It is difficult to say, at this juncture, whether this pressure will be effective or not. The situation is that the government echelons have only given permission to operate overtly to those political factions which are in favor of the regime and regarding whose loyalty there are no doubts.

In such circumstances, the activities of secular groups and organizations that were prominent and of major importance in the past are more or less banned. At present, the political situation in the Islamic Republic is

not at all clear. Therefore, it is better that we do not make hasty predictions; rather, we should wait for events to take their natural course.

Commentary on Iran's Resumption of Oil Exports

NC2710123989 Moscow in Persian to Iran
1500 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Yuriy Andreyev commentary from "The World Today" feature]

[Excerpts] Esteemed listeners: Speaking at a press conference in Tehran, Iranian Petroleum Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh explained the present situation in the oil industry to foreign correspondents.

It is perhaps no exaggeration to say that oil is the lifeblood of contemporary civilization. The destiny of many countries today is linked to the situation in the oil market. [passage omitted]

Oil plays a major role in current international relations. It can be a bone of contention or the basis of mutually beneficial cooperation.

We know that Iran is one of the most influential oil-producing countries in the world. [passage omitted] Oil is the basis and foundation of Iran's economy and perhaps that is why it plays an important role in Iran's relations with other countries. This role takes various forms. For example, the United States has boycotted Iranian oil since 1979. The White House repeatedly sought to use the oil embargo as a lever to exert pressure on Tehran. Washington was optimistic about using economic embargoes to reform the policies of the Iranian leadership. However, this policy of economic siege proved unproductive. Iran remained steadfast and was able to enlist new trading partners. Following the revolution, Tehran also stopped exporting oil to U.S. allies which had developed an adverse reputation, such as Israel and South Africa. [passage omitted]

Despite the gloomy prognostications of various experts, Iran was able to reconstruct and repair its oil installations damaged in the war with Iraq independently and without any assistance from Western countries. In this regard, we should note the statement by the Iranian petroleum minister, Mr Aqazadeh, who said that there is no lack of a specialized cadre for the reconstruction of Iran's oil installations. He stressed that in only 5 months Iranian engineers enabled the Abadan refinery, which had been almost totally destroyed, to resume operations.

In my view, Soviet-Iranian economic cooperation in the field of the oil industry is exemplary and has a bright future. [passage omitted].

New Soviet Ambassador to Qatar Profiled

*LD2310234789 Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT
23 Oct 89*

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—Vladimir Vodyakhin was appointed Soviet ambassador to the state of Qatar, TASS learnt at the Soviet Foreign Ministry today.

Vladimir Vodyakhin, a Russian, was born in 1937. In 1962 he graduated from the Moscow Institute of International Relations of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

He worked in the USSR embassies to the Republic of Iraq (1965-1966) and to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (1968-1973).

Between 1975-1979 he was counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in the Arab Republic of Egypt. From 1979 to 1983 he was chief of the sector of Middle East countries of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

Between 1983-1986, he was counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Starting in 1986, he has been minister-counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in the Republic of Iraq.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Vorontsov, Ethiopia's Berhanu on Northern Problem

*EA2610202889 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring
Countries 1600 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Text] Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and foreign minister, held talks this afternoon with Comrade Yuliy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR first deputy foreign minister. Comrade Berhanu briefed the first deputy minister on current realities in Ethiopia, especially the efforts being made to resolve the problem in the northern region of our country peacefully.

For his part, Comrade Yuliy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov said that the USSR had an unwavering position as far as Ethiopia's territorial integrity was concerned. In this connection, he said that all the assistance that has been provided to Ethiopia in the past will, as much as possible, continue in the future. He further stated that the USSR strongly supports the Ethiopian revolution and would like to see the peace situation in the country improved. The USSR will make an all-around contribution to the peace, prosperity, and development of Ethiopia, he added. Comrade Vorontsov said that the USSR will continue supporting its friends and make relentless efforts to develop cooperation and good relations.

Mengistu Asks People's Help Against Rebels

*EA2710192389 Moscow International Service
in Amharic 1530 GMT 24 Oct 89*

[Text] The Tigray People's Liberation Front [TPLF], which launched an offensive against the Ethiopian Government in August, has continued its attacks and is currently advancing. One of our reporters in Addis Ababa comments:

Although additional troops from other regions are being sent to the front, they have failed to contain the rebel (?guerrilla ambush) campaign. It was therefore decided to reinforce the armed forces with a battalion made up of police, civilian volunteers, armed Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] members, voluntary [words indistinct] and veteran elders.

A rally attended by many thousands of people was held in Addis Ababa yesterday. Addressing it, President Mengistu Haile Mariam said: The current issue is whether the country disintegrates or all available manpower is coordinated to fight for victory. There was nothing more important for the Ethiopian people than unity, peace, and social prosperity. Attempts by the terrorist gangs to dismember the country amounted to despising the genuine sons of Ethiopia. The president called on the people to rise up and defend the country's security.

The first step is to prevent the TPLF from cutting the strategic Aseb-Addis Ababa Road, which the rebels are heading for. If they take control of the road, Addis Ababa will run out of fuel, and the supply of other consumer commodities will be disrupted. The government is determined to prevent this from happening. Meanwhile, however, banks and other organizations have deserted Dese, which is between Aseb and Addis Ababa. Precautionary measures are being applied in Addis Ababa. Police patrols of the city's roads have been doubled. Arms are being handed out to party members.

Addressing the mass rally held in Addis Ababa, yesterday, representatives of the women's, youth, and peasants' associations and of the Armed forces condemned the TPLF and expressed support for the president's call. The people were ready to stand by the revolutionary forces, said President Mengistu. Workers have started fortifying their organizations, while the revolutionary forces have started 24-hour patrolling.

TPLF Offensive, Government Response Viewed

*EA2810222089 Moscow International Service
in Amharic 1530 GMT 27 Oct 89*

[From the "Africa As We See It" program]

[Text] According to Western reporters, fierce fighting is going on in Gonder, Gojam, and Welo regions between government troops and Tigray People Liberation Front [TPLF] forces. The fighting has spread to many towns and is threatening huge communications infrastructures in the republic.

The offensive launched by the front at the end of August has changed the situation in the country. The Tigray rebels embarked on the offensive at a time when talks between the Ethiopian Government and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front on solving the problems in the north offered a glimmer of hope that the war might stop. At that time the government also had plans to hold similar talks with the TPLF.

Maksim Yevgenyev comments on the reasons why the TPLF acted in this way at a time when favorable conditions for solving the internal conflicts raging in the north were beginning to emerge. He says that the aim of the offensive was to bring down the government and to fulfill their ambition of [words indistinct]. The action taken by the Tigray rebels was unnecessary as subsequent events have shown. One thing is evident from their activities and that is their desire to score a victory on the battlefield and subsequently to topple the Ethiopian Government.

It is clear that the Republic of Ethiopia is currently in a very difficult situation. But as we know very well, the Ethiopian people have been tested by greater threats in the past and have managed to face up to them with pride [word indistinct]. It should not be forgotten that the current people's government has been ruling the country for the last 15 years, with the support of the broad masses. It is a real political force.

The appeal by the Ethiopian leader, Mengistu Haile Mariam, for the people to defend the country and repulse enemies bent on dismembering Ethiopia, has received a positive response from many hundreds of thousands of the republic's citizens. Evidence of the workers' heroic zeal is the fact that many people have volunteered for the war front. A major campaign to support the Army has been launched. Groups are being trained in self-defense and deployed in various towns.

But when all is said and done, the Ethiopian Government has not abandoned the peace initiative. It is willing to hold peace talks with the opposition groups. According to the foreign minister, Berhanu Bayeh, preparations are under way for a dialogue with the opposition groups. This is in line with the leadership's policy of correcting the situation in the north. The Ethiopian Government has expressed its readiness to solve the problems there by political means, with the (?support of the international community).

The Soviet first deputy foreign minister, Comrade Yuliy Vorontsov, has arrived in Addis Ababa and handed over a message from the Soviet leader.

East Europe

Shevardnadze Comments on 1968, CSSR, Poland

LD2710185789 Prague Domestic Service
in Czech 1700 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who is visiting Poland, refused to condemn the entry of

the allied forces into Czechoslovakia in 1968 which he was challenged to do so by Adam Michnik, chief editor of the Solidarity daily, GAZETA WYBORCZA.

Eduard Shevardnadze said that the decision on the entry of the allied forces to Czechoslovakia was made jointly. I put myself in that category of politicians who take joint decisions very seriously. That particular decision was made in 1968 by the leaders of the Warsaw Pact states, the then party general secretaries and chairmen of the Defense Councils, and there were also calls from the Czechoslovak side.

The analysis of those events from today's positions can be changed only by a joint decision. This is a very complex, delicate and difficult problem. The entry of the allied forces into Czechoslovakia cannot be compared with the entry of Soviet troops into Afghanistan, Eduard Shevardnadze stressed in response to this suggestion from Adam Michnik. The decision on the entry of Soviet troops into Afghanistan, which I consider as not properly thought out and wrong, because it did not take the whole situation into account, came about in other historical conditions. We were the sole originators of that decision, and we ourselves implemented it. At the same time it must be said that the people who made that decision did not plan for the troops to remain there for a long period of time. They acted, as previous generations did, on the idea of revolutionary solidarity and internationalism. Afghanistan was genuinely threatened by a foreign intervention, and even today there are some people interfering in that country.

Czechoslovakia is a different matter. I consider it inadmissible for anyone to force their own viewpoint on this problem. We consider as binding the analysis carried out by the Czechoslovak Communist Party leadership and the Czechoslovak Government. Any other viewpoint would be a gross error. Once and for all we have renounced the policy of forcing our analyses on others. This is incompatible with the customs of relations between civilized states.

If, in the case of Poland, we expressed dissatisfaction with the new Polish Government this could hardly be considered as compatible with the norms of contemporary politics. Czechoslovakia is a sovereign state, and it has the inalienable right to make an independent analysis of its own history, Eduard Shevardnadze stressed. He recalled that the earlier assessment by Czechoslovak party leaders on the events in Czechoslovakia does not differ from today's assessments. We respect this because if today, after what has happened in Poland, with the new people who have entered the Sejm and the government, Moscow were to declare that they would not go to Warsaw because the Polish premier is not a communist, such an approach would run counter to the basic norms of conducting politics today. That is not the way we want to do things.

Czechoslovakia is a sovereign state in which there are party and state structures that decide that state's policy.

We respect their views, just as we respect the choice of the Polish nation. The fact that Poland is led by people who are not communists may be something that we do not entirely like, but we respect the will of the Polish nation. Anything that violates the sovereign rights of the party, state, and government is exclusively an internal affair of a given country, and such an approach should not be criticized, but should be supported.

In the context of today's developments in the Soviet Union and Poland, Eduard Shevardnadze stressed, that the two countries have one problem in common: the need for the consolidation of all the alternative forces to resolve the fundamental problems in the interests of restructuring and democratization.

Eduard Shevardnadze said that in the Soviet Union we are not afraid of people who have a different viewpoint. On the contrary, we value those who honestly speak their mind. This, of course, does not apply to demagogues, who are dangerous both for the Soviet Union and for Poland. Demagogues, in his view, are those who seek cheap popularity. On the other hand, those who are genuinely convinced of the existence of alternative solutions and who defend their views deserve absolute respect. Democracy is governed by rules: there is a minority and a majority, and the majority decides.

Eduard Shevardnadze also rejected suggestions to the effect that Stalinism was continued in Leonid Brezhnev's time. In his view, in Brezhnev's time, there was no prevailing terrible despotism. It was possible to work, some things worked out, others did not. Anyone who wanted to work could find a job for himself. The people who took the lead in restructuring, for example Mikhail Gorbachev, were not in the right place. Foreign policy always follows on from internal policy. Our attitude toward other nations has changed, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said in his interview to the daily, GAZETA WYBORCZA.

Krenz Cited on Meeting With FRG's Mischnick

PM3010103189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "E. Krenz Press Conference"]

[Text] Berlin, 26 Oct—The GDR is prepared to make sure that the treaty on the foundations of relations between the GDR and the FRG, as well as the communique signed by both countries in September 1987, are fully applied. Our country holds out to the FRG the hand of good-neighborly relations, whose indispensable condition is equal rights. E. Krenz, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee and Chairman of the GDR State Council, stated this at a press conference held here after a meeting with W. Mischnick, chairman of the Free Democratic Party group in the FRG Bundestag.

Answering a question on the prospects of a meeting with FRG Chancellor H. Kohl, E. Krenz stated that he is

prepared for such a meeting. At the same time, he stressed that he intends to pay particular attention in the near future to domestic policy problems. E. Krenz expressed the hope that before long he would be able to talk with the FRG chancellor on the telephone.

E. Krenz stated that a whole complex of problems regarding relations between the two countries was discussed during the meeting with W. Mischnick. Dwelling on the question of foreign trips for GDR citizens, he pointed out that it was vital to draw up a draft law on the given problems which would then be submitted for nationwide discussion and subsequently adopted by the People's Chamber. We must also proceed on the basis of the principle that every GDR citizen must have the possibility of receiving a passport for foreign travel and a visa. A number of unresolved problems still exist in this sphere, primarily the problem of the recognition of GDR citizenship, and also economic aspects. As E. Krenz stressed, it is possible to reach practical decisions in the given sphere by means of businesslike cooperation based on equal rights.

E. Krenz gave the following answer to the question of whether opposition group activity will be permitted in the GDR: "Let us give up the 'opposition' notion! Let's put it this way: There are citizens in the GDR who are reflecting on how the country should move forward. There is a need for all kinds of ideas. No one is excluded from the exchange of ideas on the given question. On the basis of the republic Constitution, this applies to all GDR citizens."

GDR 'Dialogue' on Political Issues Viewed

PM3010091589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Second Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondents S. Baygarov and M. Podklyuchnikov under "The GDR Today" rubric: "Time for a Serious Dialogue"]

[Text] Berlin—It is a time of high political activity in the life of the German socialist state, a time of serious deliberation about ways of further developing the country. Everywhere—at bezirk-level SED party aktiv meetings, at enterprises, at large, spontaneous demonstrations and rallies, and in various forums—people are discussing the 9th SED Central Committee Plenum decisions, which are of crucial importance for the GDR's future development.

The GDR has entered its fifth decade. An SED Central Committee Politburo 11 October statement says that the socialist GDR is the creation of the whole people. It grew up as a result of the labor of its citizens—both the generations possessing life experience and the young people—and as a result of their participation in the discussion of affairs and in common actions and of the adoption of decisions and joint responsibility. Together they created a socialist republic and together, through trials and tribulations, they preserved its existence as a worker-peasant state.

But the chronicle of events which filled the days leading up to and the actual jubilee celebrations contained not only bright chapters. There have been chapters of a different kind as well—of a kind that have caused deep anxiety among all who cherish the cause of socialism in the GDR and have alarmed its friends.

The week that preceded the jubilee saw the start of a process which is still continuing: Several tens of thousands of the republic's citizens have migrated to the West, using illegal routes via the open border between Hungary and Austria and via the FRG embassies in Budapest, Prague, and Warsaw. They are mainly young people.

This phenomenon has complex causes. One of them, certainly, is the FRG policy of stubbornly refusing to recognize GDR citizenship. On the Rhine the 40th anniversary of the German socialist state was used as an occasion to bring the FRG's "pan-German" pretensions to the fore once again, to reiterate the thesis about the "existence of a German Reich within the 1937 borders," whereby the FRG allegedly has the "duty to take charge of all Germans." Bonn State Secretary Hennig even proposed "dusting off and airing" plans, drawn up more than 25 years ago, for the stage-by-stage liquidation of people's ownership in the GDR.

The massive propaganda campaign west of the Elbe has done a great deal of damage to the edifice of normal GDR-FRG relations, which took such hard work to build. It must be said that damage was also done to the image of the FRG itself, because it tolerated such an explosion of chauvinist, nationalist sentiments and allowed its diplomatic missions abroad to be used in a way that contravenes international agreements.

The FRG's role in the events of recent weeks is obvious. But there is another side to such a complex phenomenon as the migration of a considerable number of citizens. It has made the GDR public wonder what it is in the republic's life that has prompted tens of thousands of young people to leave their jobs, homes, relatives, and friends and go into the dubious unknown.

The question has been asked in the GDR press. "Why are so many people expressing dissatisfaction?" a reader's letter to the paper *BERLINER ZEITUNG* said. "Can all these events be put down merely to widespread 'reporting' and 'interpretation' in the FRG media?"

In this situation the SED has demonstrated that it is capable of bravely facing the truth. "It must be noted," new Central Committee General Secretary Egon Krenz said on GDR television after the 9th SED Central Committee plenum, "in recent months we have not been realistic enough in our assessment of the nature of social development in our country and have failed to draw the correct conclusions in good time. With the present plenum we are embarking on a radical change and are again mounting a political and ideological offensive."

On the initiative of the SED an open dialogue has started with all classes and strata of the country's population, including church circles. Members and candidate members of the Politburo, secretaries of the SED Central Committee, first secretaries of bezirk party committees, senior party and state officials, and leaders of the GDR National Front are meeting with working people at industrial enterprises, in agricultural production cooperatives, and in residential areas. They have gone to meet the participants of spontaneous demonstrations in Berlin, Leipzig, Magdeburg, Halle, Plauen, and Schwerin, to find out what is bothering them and to answer numerous questions.

The main thing, as numerous readers' letters to newspapers stress, is to make socialism more attractive, strengthen the socialist social system in the GDR, hold socialist ideals high, and not dismiss common achievements. What it has taken generations to accomplish must not be called into question. These, the SED Central Committee Politburo 11 October statement says, are essential elements in the responsibility for the people's present and future and the duty to hundreds of thousands of German revolutionaries and genuine German patriots and to the millions of victims of German fascism and militarism. This is what the GDR's friends in the Warsaw Pact countries and throughout the world expect.

"Above all it is important that we should not allow authority to be infringed," one reader of *NEUES DEUTSCHLAND* writes.

In this way, on the threshold of the incipient dialogue, the "advice" suggested by the FRG about what actual "reforms" the German socialist state should pursue is being categorically rejected. Here is another reader: "Most of my work comrades share my view and realize what lies behind this hollering for 'reforms'—they want to reform socialism to death."

A frank dialogue has started up in the country about the contradictions in social development, about the problems which in the course of socialist building either have not yet been solved or have resurfaced. What direction is the new debate taking?

It is focused above all on problems of national economic development. At meetings with leaders of party and state organs and with representatives of the National Front working people are pointing out the defects that have appeared in recent years in the economic mechanism. They are talking about the disturbance of national economic proportions, which leads to plan imbalance and breakdowns in the supply of raw materials and parts. And this results in stoppages and a loss of production efficiency—more and more people have tried to conceal these shortcomings by massaging statistics.

The question of pay is an acute one. Although considerable work has begun in this sphere, leveling trends continue to operate. What worries working people is the quality of products and how they compare with world

scientific-technical standards. There is also discussion of the role of trade unions, which are now expected to be more actively involved in the democratic process, in particular in the discussion of plans, and to represent workers' and employees' interests more effectively, seeking an improvement in their working and living conditions.

Supply is a thorny problem for working people. Let us say right away that the GDR experiences no shortages of food or basic daily goods—meat, milk, and butter, washing powder, toothpaste, or razor blades. But some goods obviously are in short supply and demand is not being met. The participants in discussions at enterprises say that it cannot be right to have to spend days searching stores for some trivial domestic item.

Another important area of debate is the development of socialist democracy, the matter of making socialism creative, and the fuller utilization of the knowledge and experience of millions of working people. At the People's Chamber session at which he was elected chairman of the GDR Council of State and National Defense Council, Egon Krenz expounded an extensive program for the democratization of the country's entire life. As the current dialogue in the country shows, the program meets with the people's approval.

The dialogue participants are paying attention to the image of the media. Their uniformity has been criticized. Working people have suggested that they cover more fully real life with its contradictions and problems, the way the people live their daily lives. Only then will they be able to effectively counteract West German propaganda.

The dialogue is paying special attention to the question of making it possible for GDR citizens to travel abroad—either on leave, privately, or in tourist groups. It is a difficult question, however. A number of difficulties and obstacles lie in the way of its solution. For instance, foreign trips require considerable foreign currency resources. But, as is pointed out, every effort will be made to find the funds. Considerably more complications are created by the FRG's nonrecognition of GDR citizenship. But the SED Central Committee Politburo has recommended the GDR Council of Ministers to prepare a draft law on trips abroad by GDR citizens. In November it will be presented for broad discussion. It is envisaged that every citizen will have the right to obtain a passport and to travel to any state and to West Berlin with the relevant visa.

During the discussion of the delicate issues, leading party and state officials have reasonably pointed out that not all of them can be solved right away. Some will take a long time to solve. But the main point is that their existence is no longer ignored.

In May 1990 the SED intends to hold its 12th congress. The dialogue that has started in the country is of enormous importance to its preparations. It will undoubtedly provide many practical proposals on the development of

socialist society, and the public discussion of all phenomena that do not accord with the essence of socialism and with party policy will bear fruit. The next SED Central Committee Plenum, Egon Krenz said in his television speech, is to elaborate fundamental proposals which will form the basis of a broad democratic discussion between the party and the people.

GDR communists were pleased to learn that M.S. Gorbachev has invited Egon Krenz to visit the Soviet Union. "Never before," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND writes, "has the exchange of ideas and experience between us been so important, and never before have there been such great opportunities for this." The paper points out that the practice of perestroika in the Soviet Union is of great interest to the GDR.

The GDR has passed its 40th anniversary and entered a new stage of development. It will have to tackle the problems that have been created by the internal needs of social progress and the general process of modernization and renewal which has started in the socialist world.

IZVESTIYA on GDR Developments, 'Renewal'

PM2610124389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
26 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent V. Lapskiy under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "GDR: Hour of Reforms"]

[Text] Berlin—At the 10th session of the GDR People's Chamber on 24 October in Berlin Egon Krenz was elected president of the State Council (there were 26 votes against and 26 abstentions) and president of the GDR National Defense Council (8 deputies voted against and 17 abstained). E. Honecker has been relieved of his former state posts.

After taking the oath E. Krenz issued a statement. The renewal of our society which we are seeking, he said, needs a firm socialist foundation. Joint efforts for the country's benefit require glasnost, prudence, and a constructive approach and also trust and extensive knowledge when taking decisions. In the future, he concluded, ministers will be accountable in their activity to the People's Chamber deputies. A People's Chamber session in the very near future will elaborate its program and new style of work. The legal protection of citizens will be improved. Speaking of the unauthorized demonstrations which have taken place, E. Krenz said: They had a certain function but now our society as never before must avoid confrontations between citizens. Dialogue on various ideas and opinions is required. We are learning, he stressed, to take a careful look at the experience of our Soviet friends and at what has given a good account of itself and to apply it creatively under our own country's national conditions.

The newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND publishes a commentary devoted to relations between the GDR and the USSR. I shall cite just a few places in it. It is in the

interests of our republic, the newspaper writes, that the Soviet Union should flourish in the business of perestroika. This is also of decisive importance for the destiny of socialism as a whole... In particular much of interest concerning the USSR's experience can be derived from Soviet journals. The decision to resume the distribution of the magazine SPUTNIK is welcomed everywhere in our country. Its temporary disappearance from the list of publications issued in our country was merely an episode which politically mature citizens of the GDR who consider themselves the Soviet Union's friends simply could not understand.

On Tuesday evening an unauthorized demonstration was held in central Berlin in which it is estimated 12,000 people, mainly young people, took part. They marched from Alexanderplatz to the People's Chamber building and the demonstrators carried posters and banners expressing disagreement with the election of the State Council president and containing the demand for a change to the laws concerning the elections to organs of power and a demand for the expansion of democracy and glasnost in the press. Many demonstrators held lighted candles. Traffic in the city center was brought to a standstill. As the demonstration proceeded, on the streets heated discussions and disputes flared up touching on questions of emigration abroad, the effectiveness of work at enterprises, trade, and the supplies for the population, and information policy.

The newspapers report that it is planned to hold the next, 10th, Socialist Unity party of Germany [SED] Central Committee Plenum 8 through 10 November. On the basis of the decisions taken at the recent Central Committee plenum, the Politburo has recently been engaging in questions of expanding the opportunities for GDR citizens to travel abroad. The Council of Ministers has been instructed to elaborate a draft law on trips—in November it will be made public for broad discussion.

The Western television channels which are received here and the newspapers coming from the FRG and West Berlin naturally write a lot about the present events in the GDR. Of course, no one expects compliments from them—over 40 years the press of the GDR and the press of the FRG have chosen predominantly dark tones in supplying information about each other. And little has changed on that plane today. Yet there are reports of specific steps in expanding cooperation between the GDR and the FRG and in this case it is a question of joint measures in the field of the conservation of the environment, to wit water and air space.

The newspapers write that at a press conference in Bonn yesterday Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl said that in the very near future he intends to have a direct telephone linkup with Egon Krenz. The chancellor is in favor of expanding contacts. If it is useful to both sides, he said, his side will place no obstacles in the way of a well prepared summit meeting.

It was announced today that six armored regiments of the GDR National People's Army have been disbanded. The decisions on the GDR's unilateral steps in the disarmament field are thus being fulfilled.

Emergence of 'Glasnost' Concept in GDR Examined

*PM3010114389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
28 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 5*

[Own correspondent V. Lapskiy dispatch: "No Alternative to Socialism"]

[Text] Berlin—Each day brings news which, a week ago, would have prompted skeptical or bewildered smiles in the GDR capital. People are saying out loud the things that yesterday were whispered. Decades-old stereotypes are crumbling before our very eyes. Glasnost—a concept which used to be employed exclusively with respect to our country and made my German interlocutors nervous, has now, it seems, become firmly embedded in the consciousness and customs of GDR citizens as something that goes without saying.

As usually happens, the period of vocal and sometimes deafening criticism is giving way to a time of resolute action. Everybody expects such action. Who should act and implement the turnaround proclaimed by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] leadership? All those interested in change, the party states—that is, the country's political and social forces, irrespective of their philosophy, given that they do not call into question socialism in the GDR.

It has been officially announced that Guenter Schabowski, first secretary of Berlin party bezirk committee, and other Berlin party organization secretaries have met with the leaders of the initiative group "New Forum," which until recently was deemed antistate. The discussion concerned many urgent problems, including the 7 October events in downtown Berlin. The "New Forum" representatives gave assurances that they would act strictly within the GDR Constitution and legislation.

Demonstrations are continuing in various cities in the republic: 25,000 people marched through the streets of Rostock. Some 15,000 citizens of Erfurt held a candlelit procession and chanted slogans calling for reforms and an expansion of democracy. There were no incidents. Some 5,000 young people took part in a demonstration in Gera, chanting: "Democracy now or never!" A 100,000-strong rally has been held in Dresden.

The process of the population's politicization is gaining strength. The SED and the GDR Government are calling for the dialogue to be brought indoors from the streets and squares and so made more businesslike and constructive.

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND has published a statement from the council of chairmen of the GDR lawyers' colleges. The council members assess the situation in the country as serious. We are convinced, the statement says,

that the distortions in our country's development have been tolerated for too long, but there is no alternative to socialism in the GDR. An honest analysis of the situation in all spheres of life should be the prerequisite for reforms. We must strive to ensure that the word "socialist" is linked to an expansion rather than a limitation of democracy. The council made specific proposals which, in its opinion, will lead to the creation and strengthening of a rule-of-law state.

There was a telephone conversation yesterday between Egon Krenz and FRG Chancellor H. Kohl. It lasted 20 minutes and is reported to have passed in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere. Both statesmen advocated the further development of relations between the two German states and practical cooperation. Recalling his speeches at the SED Central Committee and the People's Chamber, Egon Krenz said that the turnaround in the GDR's development under no circumstances marks a step backward. The GDR continues to be a socialist country. The callers agreed to continue to discuss any problems that emerge. The FRG, Egon Krenz said, should think again about respecting GDR citizenship. H. Kohl reaffirmed his view—that the questions to be discussed should be those on which mutual agreement can be reached.

A report from Prague has been published: The GDR citizens currently on the territory of the FRG Embassy are being stripped of their citizenship. They can obtain from the GDR Embassy in Prague the documents they need to travel to the FRG. This decision was made yesterday in Berlin and was coordinated with the Czechoslovak Government. The West German side undertakes to transport the former GDR citizens to the FRG. There have been reports that the mass crossing of the Hungarian-Austrian border by GDR citizens is continuing.

GDR Workers Complain 'Openly, Fearlessly'

PM2510142389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Lapskiy dispatch: "GDR: Rallies and Demonstrations"]

[Text] Berlin—On Tuesday the Presidium of the GDR People's Chamber convened the country's supreme organ of state power for a session on the instructions of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] faction. On the agenda was an SED Central Committee proposal to elect Egon Krenz as chairman of the State Council and chairman of the GDR National Defense Council. His candidacy for both posts was approved.

Probably never before in the GDR's 40-year existence has political life here been so full, not to say stormy. Event follows event. Demonstrations now here, now there. Street debates between demonstrators and leaders of the party and the country, heated arguments, criticism, proposals, and the sincere hope that the country is emerging on the right road from its state of crisis. But a very great deal has to be resolved and overcome.

A 50,000-strong rally took place in Dresden. It was addressed by Hans Modrow, first secretary of Dresden Bezirk party committee; Wolfgang Berghofer, the mayor; and others. The rally took place in an emotional atmosphere. Many participants demanded an investigation into police actions against demonstrators between 3 and 8 October. Hans Modrow reported that, by decision of the City Deputies Assembly and the City Council of Dresden, representatives of the parties, the city leadership, and the church will hold regular meetings with the public.

A report has come out of Schwerin that a 40,000-strong rally was held there, too, on the Altgartenplatz. It was called by the democratic bloc, which includes political parties and the city's public organizations, and by the city council. Those who took the microphone spoke of the need to make socialism in the GDR more attractive. A banner had been brought which bore the inscription "Socialism—Yes; Capitalism—No!" An atmosphere of excitement prevailed in the square, and people simultaneously applauded the speakers or hissed them to show disagreement. "We are all together starting to learn what must be done and how, in order to trust each other again," Heinz Ziegner, first secretary of Schwerin Bezirk party committee, said. The speakers demanded that more attention be given to young people and that their opinion be heeded.

A 150,000-strong demonstration was held in Leipzig. It was peaceful in nature. Its participants spent 2 hours passing through the city center, voicing support for the public dialogue which has begun and disagreement with phenomena which have arisen recently in the country's social development, and demanded improvements in everyday life.

Workers at Berlin's "Bergman-Borzig" [name as transliterated] people's enterprise telephoned Harry Tisch, chairman of the Central Board of the Free German Trade Union Federation, and invited him to their meeting. The discussion turned to everyday work, socialist competition, and the honest summing up of plan fulfillment results. The workers who spoke made a skeptical assessment of the country's existing economic mechanism. They advocated the principle of remuneration according to labor and slammed working conditions in the construction of power stations and also the principles for distributing housing among workers. This was the first time they had spoken so openly and fearlessly.

Harry Tisch took the floor. He spoke of the need to "make changes to certain national economic processes." The forms of organizing socialist competition and the methods of calculating output fulfilled must be changed. "It is time to end the practice," he declared, "whereby certain production collectives are already adopting additional pledges for the 12th SED Congress (it is scheduled for May 1990—V.L.) but have no idea about how the annual plan is being fulfilled." He advocated that the trade unions should fulfill their specific tasks and find

and champion their own stand on everyday production problems and questions of work and domestic life.

Reports have been received that thousands of citizens have been demonstrating in Magdeburg and Halle. The demonstrators demanded more democracy and glasnost. The central press has reported that distribution of the Soviet magazine SPUTNIK is being resumed. This has aroused the population's lively interest.

Sharp criticism has been aroused in the GDR by a recent statement by FRG Chancellor H. Kohl, who confirmed his adherence to the principle according to which West Germany is "the motherland of all Germans." The federal government declared its readiness to develop broad cooperation with the GDR, but made this dependent on "profound reforms" in state management, the economy, and society, as it pictures them. After H. Kohl, Christian Democratic Union General Secretary Volker Ruehe repeated the claim to single-handed representation of "all Germany."

The BERLINER ZEITUNG newspaper writes in a commentary in this regard: "There is just one reason for such statements. The ruling circles in Bonn do not wish to let go of the instrument which they have recently been using so shamelessly to put political pressure on the GDR." This stance of Bonn's contributes to the outflow of citizens from the GDR to the FRG. If Bonn is really interested in reform in the GDR and wishes to help ease the GDR people's life, why does it not abandon its absurd claims now?

And the final point. Reports are issuing from Bonn that many GDR citizens who have moved to the FRG in recent weeks would like to return home. Many dozens of people have already applied to return home. As already reported, the GDR Government has adopted a decision to allow them to come back.

TASS Cites ADN on Changes in Media Policy

*LD2710150789 Moscow TASS in English
1350 GMT 27 Oct 89*

[Text] Berlin 26/10/TASS—The GDR News Agency ADN Reports:

Speechlessness is Broken—GDR Media Undergo Change

By Karsten Witzmann

Berlin (ADN)—Many GDR newspaper readers, TV viewers and radio listeners could hardly believe their eyes and ears in the last few days. Under the new leadership, the media have changed beyond recognition.

This turn is reflected by headlines such as "Speechlessness is Broken", "We Find Words Again", "Courage To Face the Truth" or "The New GDR Leadership Must be Given Time and a Chance".

After years of unrealistic reporting, the media now mirror what really happens in the country: dialogue at all levels and first results of change and renewal, but also demonstrations and disputes about mistakes and neglects of the past.

Live television programmes in which politicians answer unvarnished questions and parliamentary debates broadcast live by TV and radio mirror the beginning of a new parliamentary practice.

JUNGE WELT youth daily intends to increase its circulation from 1.4 to 1.6 million copies because of risen demand. But this will not be easy due to a shortage of paper in the country.

The so far boring main evening news programme with low ratings is meeting with ever keener interest with TV viewers because of its realistic contents.

New party and state leader Egon Krenz made his first speech to journalists a few days ago urging them to credibly reflect in the media the dialogue which has got underway between the leadership and the people. But he underlined that the press could not be reduced to aimless, anarchic talking.

As had turned out now, the GDR had gifted journalists who took pleasure in their work, in the political struggle and who with a wealth of ideas and by exchanging views with their readers burned to advance our society as one of creative, politically reeducated and responsible people, Krenz said.

Ten days ago, the necessary political conditions for this were created.

GDR Dailies Note 'Very Frank' Dialogues

*LD3010113989 Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT
30 Oct 89*

[Text] Berlin 30/10/TASS—The GDR news agency ADN reports:

Press/Dialogue

GDR Dailies Note Dialogue of the "Very Frank" Words [ADN headline]

Berlin (ADN)—Monday's GDR newspapers carry long reports on public discussions between people and authorities in many cities at the weekend.

Public rallies in Berlin were held under the motto "Open doors—Frank words", SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] party daily NEUES DEUTSCHLAND describes the dialogue as a form of direct sovereignty of the people. Saying: "The people's open demonstration of will proves to be an equally useful and legitimate element of socialist democracy."

"The road to the turn is paved with bitter truths". The trade union daily TRIBUNE writes and notes that Trade Union confederation Chairman Harry Tisch,

facing harsh criticism from rank-and-file members, will propose a vote of confidence in him at a governing board meeting.

Commenting on the "unusual form of protests of popular will", the Christian Democratic newspaper NEUE ZEIT writes hundreds of thousands were taking to the streets as they felt "that not only something, but some basic thing has to change here—and change rapidly."

DER MORGEN, of the GDR's Liberal Democratic Party, sees the GDR people is awakening. "What we thought to be advanced socialism has shown to be just the structure of a society which may bring freedom, equality and fraternity", DER MORGEN says.

Radio on 'Constructive' Nature of GDR Dialogue

LD2910163189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1330 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Mass meetings and demonstrations have been taking place over the last few days in large and small towns in the GDR. Their main feature is the constructive and open nature of the dialogue and discussion of all issues, including ones which sometimes deserve sharp criticism. A distinctive feature of these events is that city authorities are themselves suggesting to residents that they take part in a constructive exchange of views and that they collectively find the most acceptable solutions to problems. Demonstrations of many thousands of people have taken place in the streets of Rostock, Plauen, and Greiz. Those taking part spoke up for free elections, the cutting of the administrative apparatus, and freedom of press and foreign travel. There were also demands that the recently-formed New Forum organization be recognized and that the possibility of opting out of military service and replacing it with community service be introduced for those who want it. Demonstrators, the press notes, took steps to look after the maintenance of public order themselves.

Correspondent Views 'Concrete Actions' in GDR

LD2710101689 Moscow Television Service
in Russian 1545 GMT 26 Oct 89

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Lyubovtsev]

[Excerpts] "Over the last few days comrades, we have been following with great interest the events in the GDR, and the contradictory and sometimes unexpected reports from this country. I asked Vyacheslav Mostovoy, our correspondent in Berlin, to prepare a report specially for our bulletin.

[Video shows Mostovoy standing in a street, speaking to camera] The main thing which is characteristic in today's situation in this country can be defined in one word—dialogue—a broad and active dialogue in the spirit of glasnost, which has been joined by all strata of

the population both in the vertical and horizontal direction. The objective which must be attained is the elimination of what has recently started to hamper the development of the country both in the economic and social sphere. [video shows life scenes in the streets of Berlin]

There is a simple explanation for the fast development of events. On the one hand the need for reforms is realized by the country's current leadership; on the other hand this is actively demanded by the wide masses of the population. Demonstrations of many thousands of people in support of new initiatives have in recent days become a usual phenomenon not only in the capital, but also in other cities and localities of the republic. [video shows an aerial view of a demonstration taking place in darkness, a poster saying Demokratie und... video then shows a crowd chanting, more posters carried, camera focuses on a poster stating: Neues Forum - Demokratie Jetzt!]

Concrete actions have already taken place. The work of the mass media has changed virtually in a matter of days. The newspapers, radio, and television reflect the country's current real problems. They detail, in an objective manner, the course of discussions. Television carries more direct and efficient relays, in which leading scientists, specialists, and leaders answer viewers' questions. [video shows copies of major GDR dailies, people buying newspapers at kiosks, Guenter Hartmann of the National Democratic Party of Germany]

The other day, Comrade Krenz, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee, was elected chairman of the country's State Council. [video shows Krenz receiving flowers and congratulations, applauding audience; Krenz delivering a speech] An overwhelming majority of deputies of the supreme body of power voted for him, but for the first time in many years there were also those who voted against him and those who abstained. This is also a new thing.

The GDR Government is first adopting specific measures in order to realize the demands of the population. A draft law on GDR citizens traveling abroad will be submitted for nationwide discussion in November. This is a draft which, as has been reported, should guarantee the right of each citizen to receive a passport to travel abroad irrespective of kinship ties and invitations. Specific measures aimed at improving the supply of food-stuffs and other goods to the population were defined. On the agenda is the law on elections and the protection of citizens' rights. [video shows people in the streets]

A feeling is developing in the country; people feel like they have been shaken up, as if they have left a state of hibernation; all of them now want to put their house in order. The order, which would remove all that is accreted and alien to the nature of socialism." [video shows more scenes of everyday life in a city] [passage omitted]

"And we have just received another report from Berlin. Egon Krenz today held his first 20-minute telephone

conversation with FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Krenz said that the GDR will remain a socialist country. This serves stability in Europe. Helmut Kohl welcomed the establishment of contact and spoke in favor of regular discussions on the problems which are arising. The GDR leader supported this proposal by stressing that it is better to speak to each other than about each other."

Correspondent Discusses GDR Demonstrations

LD2910131389 Moscow Domestic Service
in Russian 0630 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] The leader of the biggest informal group in the GDR, NEW FORUM, thinks the political climate in the country has changed notably since the popular demonstrations of 9 October. An interview with the latter has been published for the first time in the newspaper MORGEN. Lawyer Rolf Henrich, considered New Forum's founder says New Forum has approximately 30,000 activists. He noted that since 9 October the police have ceased using strongarm tactics against the demonstrations, the demonstrations for reform and for democratization of life in the GDR. So, the situation formed in the GDR is described by Anatoliy Stepkin, our correspondent in Berlin.

[Begin Stepkin recording] What is the essence of the changes occurring in the GDR? First and foremost, the essence lies in the fact that a broad dialogue has begun, a mass dialogue across the entire country. It is sought by the workers, peasants, scientists, artists, and people from all social groups. The members of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Politburo and Central Committee have turned to the masses. The most acute and stirring issues are being raised. Are projects costing millions needed? Why are there not enough spare parts? Why is socialist emulation so formalized? It would have seemed that in the postwar period the most democratic foundations were laid in the political structure of the GDR. There is a National Front, which unites broad strata of the population. There are several factions in the GDR People's Chamber, the country's parliament, factions which represent the interests of various parties and population groups. But, as life has shown, with time they have begun to be transformed into merely formally acting bodies. Today questions concerning the invigoration of those institutes are being put on the agenda. It is necessary to breathe new life into them. These days it is possible to observe precisely this process in Berlin and in other cities of the republic. Literally not a single day goes by without a demonstration. Unfortunately, not all pass off peacefully and smoothly, but the political leadership is agreeing to dialogue with the working people. Without exception all problems that have become pressing are being discussed at factories, in workers' collectives, at mass forums. All imaginable issues are being raised. For example, the workers of the Tsikiva works, which makes preambulators, ask: Egon Krenz, when speaking at the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee Plenum from the People's Chamber, spoke of a turnaround which has begun, but are there the prerequisites

and forces to complete it? Yes, Hans-Joachim Boehme, member of the political leadership, responds to them: During the conversations with the working people in the last few days, I have come to feel, despite all the skepticism, that there is confidence that our party, along with the working people, possesses the forces and possibilities to build such a form of socialism which would correspond better to the requirements of people.

Many understand there are problems of which one still has to become aware, and which will take time and preconditions and the necessary resources to solve. They cannot be resolved in 1 or 2 days, or in a week. Speaking in the People's Chamber after his election to the post of chairman of the State Council of the GDR, Egon Krenz stated: Joint actions for the good of the country require openness, frankness, awareness, and thoroughness. Trust in each other and understanding of the essence of the problems and of the ways of solving them are needed. As has been announced in Berlin, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Politburo has decided to call its next plenum for 8-10 November. [end recording]

Nyers Thanks Gorbachev for Congratulations

PM2510142189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
25 Oct 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Thanks for Congratulations"]

[Text] In a letter to M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, R. Nyers, chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP], has expressed thanks for the good wishes in connection with his election to the post of MSZP chairman. The letter points out that the MSZP intends to develop traditional friendly relations with the CPSU and to promote the expansion of interstate, economic and cultural cooperation between Hungary and the Soviet Union.

MSZP's Nyers Invites New Members To Join Ranks

PM2610094789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 26 Oct 89 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Hungary: Appeal to Members of the Hungarian Socialist Party"]

[Text] The Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] invites all who agree with its positions and with its program declaration and statutes adopted at the party congress to join its ranks, MSZP Chairman Rezso Nyers emphasized in a letter addressed to former members of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP].

The party invites communists, social democrats, and people with leftwing, humanist views who are prepared to act for the sake of reforms to join its ranks. It would also welcome believers who accept the party program. The only persons the party would like to exclude from its ranks are those who advocate extreme solutions and violent interference in society's life, the letter points out.

The MSZP inherited from the MSZMP values which are preserved by party members: roots going back to the workers movement; solidarity with members of society who live on what they earn through their labor; commitment to justice and antipathy to inherited and property privileges. But the party is no longer the same as the MSZMP. It believes that the most important values are labor, freedom, justice, and democracy. The MSZP rejects all forms of monopoly of power and the use of force for the sake of attaining political goals.

We would like to have a democratic, left-wing socialist party which attracts supporters of its policy and philosophy through persuasion, R. Nyers noted. The MSZP strives for democratic socialism, which cannot be either Stalinist socialism or restored capitalism. The MSZP advocates equal opportunities and social protection.

One can understand and sympathize with the feeling that the party's transformation is not an easy time for many of its members. One can understand their doubts, seeing that the new party's nature has so far been defined only in its documents. However, party members themselves are the only ones capable of giving them a real socialist meaning.

R. Nyers expressed confidence that MSZMP members will decide to remain in the party and, even if they do not, they will still continue to support it and become its allies.

Hungarian Socialist Party Denies MSZMP Existence

PM2710151989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Presidium Resolution"]

[Text] Budapest, 26 Oct—A press conference of representatives of the "Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Interim Organizational Committee" has been held here.

Answering journalists' questions, representatives of the interim organizational committee noted that the newly formed MSZMP may in future be called the united Hungarian workers party. They pointed out that the members of the interim organizational committee are not abandoning the MSZMP program but intend to set up a new party to analyze the real state of affairs in Hungary. According to them, more than 20,000 people have stated their desire to be MSZMP members.

MTI has disseminated a Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] Presidium resolution. The document notes that the MSZP is the sole successor to the MSZMP, which was recorded in the documents of the recent congress.

The MSZP Presidium, the resolution points out, considers the attempts by the new organization calling itself the MSZMP to set up a party to be illegal, since this runs counter to one of the paragraphs of the law on citizens' rights to set up groups [obedineniye] and associations.

'Calm' at Budapest Commemoration of 1956 Events

PM2510153189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent F. Lukyanov dispatch: "National Reconciliation Day"]

[Text] Budapest—This year for the first time 23 October—the start of the tragic events of 1956—was officially marked in Hungary as National Reconciliation Day.

Students of the capital's higher educational institutions took to the streets of Budapest 33 years ago and were joined by tens of thousands of people. The students were demanding an investigation into the crimes of the Stalinist Rakosi regime, the rehabilitation of those illegally convicted and interned, freedom of speech and of the press, elections on a multiparty basis, and the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the country's territory. In the evening of the same day the first armed clashes took place outside the radio building with servicemen of the state security forces who were guarding the building. The first blood was shed. The events, which had begun with a peaceful demonstration, took quite a different turn...

The interpretation of the 1956 events deeply split Hungarian society, preventing its consolidation. However, the process of national concord, which began this year with negotiations around a nationwide "roundtable," has affected this sphere, too. First the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and then its successor—the Hungarian Socialist Party—proposed to the opposition marking 23 October as National Reconciliation Day to remind them (I cite the Hungarian Socialist Party Congress resolution) that "the use of force in any form as a political means invariably leads to a national tragedy."

For its part the opposition proposed declaring 23 October a national holiday and nonworking day. The National Assembly, to which this question was referred, settled for the first option, scheduling for 23 October—not by chance, presumably—the official ceremony of the proclamation, according to the country's amended Constitution, of the Hungarian Republic.

At noon on 23 October M. Szuros, president of the parliament, proclaimed the Hungarian Republic to the sound of bells.

The "23 October Committee," which includes representatives of more than 20 opposition parties and organizations, held its own measures in many places in Budapest associated with the 1956 events. Memorial plaques were unveiled where the most serious fighting had taken place, in particular outside the radio building. In the evening, just as 33 years previously, tens of thousands of people gathered for a rally in front of the parliament building.

Despite individual attempts to work up emotions, a mood of solemn grief, calm, and readiness to forgive prevailed practically everywhere—without which national reconciliation is certainly and simply impossible.

Moscow Radio Views Hungarian Reforms, Poszgay
LD2510105389 Moscow Domestic Service
in Russian 0830 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] The changes taking place in Hungary are attracting general attention. Our special correspondent in Budapest, Yuriy Rogov, speaks of the internal political situation in the country and the disposition of political forces.

[Rogov] What is typical of Hungarian society today? We have a noticeable stratification, which has been reflected in the creation and recreation of different parties, associations, and groups. A multi-party system has been established in the country. There are factions in the State Assembly which express the desires of different strata of society. At the same time, amendments to the Constitution have officially repealed the thesis of the leading role of the Marxist-Leninist party.

The Socialist Party, which has been reorganized out of the MSZMP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party], is going through a difficult time. The party has a leadership, it has a program and charter, but its quantitative membership is completely undetermined. Let me remind you that the congress decided that members of the MSZMP had to confirm, by signing before the end of October, their changeover to the Socialist Party. As far as I know, up to today only a few thousand people have done this. The Presidium of the party has decided to prolong the period to the end of December.

At the same time other new parties are beginning to organize themselves. In particular, several Communists are describing the decisions of the congress as illegal, and continue to consider themselves members of the MSZMP.

What I would also like to note is this: Healthy, sober forces in society are aspiring toward a peaceful, thought-out solution to the problems that have arisen, and are warning about extremist actions and speeches.

The main task today is not confrontation, but the consolidation of all constructive forces. If this cohesion is achieved, it will be easier to get rid of existing problems, and to take a noticeable step on the path to progress. This was said at a meeting of journalists of the paper NEPSZABADSAG with Imre Poszgay, member of the Hungarian Socialist Party Presidium—who, incidentally, is the party's candidate for the forthcoming presidential elections. He pointed out that everyone should be aware of their personal responsibility for today and tomorrow.

Imre Poszgay enjoys great prestige in the country. The 56-year-old politician, a historian by education, worked for many years in local and central party bodies and was Hungary's minister of culture. At present he is one of the leaders of the political reform being implemented in the country. His chances at the forthcoming elections for the Presidency of the Hungarian Republic are estimated to be quite high.

So, Hungary is decisively implementing reforms in its internal political life. Only the next few weeks and months will show how successful they will be.

Army Daily Ponders Hungarian Developments

PM2610142789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 26 Oct 89 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent Lieutenant Colonel V. Baberdin article under the rubric "From a Hungarian Notebook": "Fall Over the Danube"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The first 10 days of October. Budapest Congress Center. The dramatic and at the same time hope-inspiring congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP], quite unusual for the present time. How did the situation take shape there? What is the subsequent path of the new party's formation? These questions invariably hung in the air during my conversations with Major General Egon Szabo, first deputy chief of the Hungarian People's Army Main Political Directorate, with Engineer Colonel Janos Szabo, congress delegate and chief of the Lajos Kossuth Higher Military School, with journalists in the editorial office of the newspaper PONT, and with officers in units and subunits of the Hungarian People's Army.

"The atmosphere at the congress was heavy," Engineer Colonel J. Szabo said. "It had to be officially admitted that, following the initial successful steps, the party had failed to ensure the government's desire to extricate the country from the crisis situation. As Imre Pozsgay, candidate of the new Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] in the presidential election, emphasized in one of his interviews, the party leadership was noted for its tyrannical, authoritarian, and corrupt nature prior to the reformist wing's accession to power. In the end the people's confidence in the MSZMP was badly shaken."

In that situation alternative political groupings inevitably had to emerge. However, it would be a mistake to declare that they are all enemies of the communist movement. They undoubtedly include people who unequivocally seek the restoration of capitalism, but these do not call the tune.

There is a good Chinese proverb: In order to come together, you have first to separate. A peaceful transition "from dictatorial state socialism to democratic socialism based on a market economy" was proclaimed as the new party's goal. At the same time pluralism of forms of ownership, including private ownership, was emphasized. Essentially, however, there is still no party as such, just its leadership. Every former member of the MSZMP must declare by 31 October whether or not he is going to become a member of the MSZP. Its ability to become a truly ruling party and, consequently, also the government's political distribution in parliament will depend on this.

"The stand with regard to the Warsaw Pact was defined unambiguously at the congress," Major General Egon

Szabo, first deputy chief of the Hungarian People's Army Main Political Directorate, pointed out in conversation with us. "We will remain loyal to it. No other viewpoints were expressed in this regard. Hungary needs the Army, but on a smaller scale and, at the same time, more efficient and modern. Its upkeep must correspond to the country's economic potential."

The place and role of the Army in the state in the situation which has taken shape in Hungary is of concern to many people. We saw this for ourselves repeatedly during meetings and discussions. In particular, my interlocutors were concerned about this question: How will political influence be exerted on personnel under conditions of a multiparty system? This influence will certainly exist. The question is topical because the decision is now being adopted to eliminate primary party organizations among the troops. Henceforth every officer and noncommissioned officer will have the right to join any party organization, but... at his place of residence. Thus the institution of political workers is being replaced by a new one: the institution of officers to educate personnel, whose duties include implementing the government's defense policy.

Here is another fact. The youth organization in the Hungarian Army has ceased operating in the form in which it used to exist. No, this is not a rejection of work with young people but a search for new forms and methods of effectively influencing them. And there are already specific proposals—how well-grounded they are is another matter. One of them is to set up an organization representing the interests of personnel. It is proposed that this will be exclusively social work aimed at keeping an eye on how far the order of life in a particular military subunit corresponds to constitutional requirements and laws. The organization will have direct access to the defense minister's apparatus and to a special commission of the parliament's Defense Committee with regard to these questions.

This is, so to speak, the factual side of the matter. Obviously, there cannot be an unequivocal attitude toward innovations of this kind. Practice will be the criterion of their correctness or erroneousness. Particularly as all this is still only at the planning stage.

Newspapers are in great demand in Budapest nowadays. People buy different publications: the MSZP organ NEPSZABADSAG, the government newspaper MAGYAR HIRLAP, the trade union newspaper NEPSZAVA, the People's Front organ NEMZET, and the press of alternative political groupings. And this is understandable. Each of them reflects in its own way the stormy political life of Hungary. It is interesting to know every opinion. The obligatory front-page topics include a modern interpretation of what happened 23 October 1956. It is no secret that a certain circle of politicians was counting quite strongly on that date.

It seemed a very tempting occasion to mount an anti-Soviet campaign, to blame the communists for everything that happened then, and to pursue the line that the Soviet Army supposedly simply stifled the popular uprising. And, further, to build bridges to the present. It was no coincidence that these forces insistently demanded that 23 October—the day the Hungarian events began in 1956—be declared a national holiday, a nonworking day.

Of course, much is now seen differently, and it makes sense to return to the past. If only so as not to repeat mistakes in the future. But, in order to prevent such mistakes, they must not be committed today. It is necessary to investigate everything thoroughly—coolly, without slogans or appeals, and employing strict facts and scientific logic.

Yes, at that time the leadership of the Hungarian Workers' Party, headed by M. Rakosi, was blindly propagating Stalinist methods of managing the party and the country. The just dissatisfaction of the urban population—above all, the intelligentsia and a section of the working class—was caught up and turned tragically against the people's system by counterrevolutionary forces. As the situation got out of control, external interference became increasingly massive.

However, the Hungarian press quite rightly points out that only by really stretching a point can the events of 1956 be described as a "popular uprising." The mass of peasants remained aloof from it. Nor does it tally with the whole complexity and contradictoriness of what happened to brand everyone indiscriminately as counterrevolutionaries. It was no coincidence that 23 October in Hungary was marked as National Reconciliation Day. Yes, there were rallies and demonstrations, but an emphatically restrained tone was imparted to all these measures. The tone of understanding of the complexity and contradictoriness of what happened 33 years ago.

...Fall over the Danube. As is customary for this time of year, areas of atmospheric pressure change. The pointer on Hungary's political barometer is also fluctuating. And this, too, is understandable—an unremitting search is on for ways to overcome the crisis phenomena in the country. And it is always hard to choose.

Foreign 'Provocateurs' Involved in Prague Events

LD2910104189 Moscow Domestic Service
in Russian 1000 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] An official statement on the events which took place yesterday in Wenceslas Square in Prague has been issued. On the day of the 71st anniversary of the formation of the Czech state, about 3,000 people gathered in the city center. The statement claims that among those gathered were foreign agents provocateurs. The speeches were of an antisocialist nature.

Moscow Radio Cites CTK Report

*LD2910161489 Moscow Domestic Service
in Russian 1200 GMT 29 Oct 89*

[Text] The CTK agency has put out a official report about the violation of public order in Prague on the day of the 71st anniversary of the formation of the Czechoslovak state. At Wenceslas Square in Prague and then in other places of the center of the city about 3,000 people gathered on 28 October. The participants of the antisocialist rally, CTK reports, didn't react to the calls of the members of the bodies for maintaining public order protection to clear the square. On the contrary, the aggressiveness of those who had assembled there was growing. The forces of law and order, the report says, ousted the demonstrating people out of Wenceslas square and all the central parts of the city in a peaceful way. During the demonstration there were attacks on public security body employees. Three of them were wounded. A total of 355 people were arrested. Among them were 17 foreigners from 11 countries. During the breaking up of the demonstration seven of the participants were wounded.

Baklanov Concludes Working Visit to CSSR**Baklanov, Hanus Meeting**

*LD2410230589 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1744 GMT 24 Oct 89*

[Text] Prague, 24 Oct (TASS)—A meeting between Oleg Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is here on a working visit, and F. Hanus, secretary and member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Central Committee Secretariat, took place in the CPCZ Central Committee. The secretaries of the Central Committees of the fraternal parties briefed each other in detail about the progress of perestroika in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia and about the efforts of the parties and peoples aimed at deepening this process. Ways of developing Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation and invigorating cooperation in party construction were discussed. It was stressed that cooperation in various spheres of scientific-technical progress has acquired special significance in the conditions of conversion realized by the USSR and the CSSR, which are confidently implementing the peace-loving policy on the basis of the new political thinking. The reorientation of a part of the defense complex capacities, it was noted in the discussion, provides an opportunity to speed up resolution of major social problems. And this is why constant exchange of experience and coordination of efforts in this direction are needed.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee then visited the state enterprise "Blanik Machine-Building Works" in the town of Vlasim. During the tour of the works, special attention was paid to the work of the enterprise in the conditions of economic reform.

Technology Transfer Review

*LD2510124189 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1800 GMT 24 Oct 89*

[From the "Vremya newscast"]

[Text] Comrade Baklanov has arrived in Czechoslovakia on a working visit. Our correspondents report.

[S.Andreyev] It is not a mistake that we are opening a reportage on the Soviet visitors' stay by showing shelves with packaged and wrapped candy, coffee, and tea. Throughout the country flour, biscuits, milk, and many other items are packaged and wrapped by automated equipment made in the small town of Vlasim. This machinery is exported, too, to the USSR, the GDR, Hungary, or Poland. Automatic machinery is not the main output, but only 20 percent of the total volume of production. Military and sporting rounds of ammunition are the main output. What, then, is the potential of the defense industry if one-fifth of the factory's annual output fully provides the food industry of a 15-million-strong country with packaging equipment? [video shows food store, cartridge-producing equipment]

[S. Slipchenko] Following the defense doctrine of the Warsaw Pact member countries, Czechoslovakia's military expenditure will drop by 15 percent in 1989-90. The number of servicemen will be reduced by 12,000, and the number of tanks will be reduced by 850. Cooperation has always united our countries, including in defense branches where cooperation has been deep. Many orders used to be sent from the Soviet Union, for example, for ammunition for the ground forces. Now the question is whether or not the production of tanks should be continued in Czechoslovakia at all. The factory in Vlasim produces cartridges and rounds of ammunition for sportsmen and hunters. Rotor production lines show remarkable performance. The same method can be used for manufacturing disposable syringes, for example. [video shows Baklanov in conversation with a group of factory officials, more shots of equipment]

When military orders are dwindling, it is expedient to transfer the technology that was used in defense industry to the production of civilian products. What potential is there for that?

[F. Hanus] I think when our directors and designers get together, they will find many useful ways because this is very advanced technology.

[Slipchenko, addressing Baklanov] What form can cooperation in conversation take?

[Baklanov] I think we have great opportunities here. We have come here precisely for this purpose. I think that after this meeting we will arrange a meeting between the leaders of our enterprises who will develop specific measures which should be implemented to provide the national economy with interesting solutions. Specifically, I must say that this collective is highly skilled.

They have made these lines with their own hands and this is very wonderful. [video shows Balkanov talking to Slipchenko]

[Slipchenko] Packaging machines. This one has a number tag 15190. They have been manufactured in a design bureau for military production. Next year the number of such machines produced in the town of Vlasim will increase by one-third. [video shows another automatic production line]

These containers hold finished machines for our country but their loading has been stopped. There is a tight railway knot on the border between our countries. Dozens of trains are waiting to be unloaded. [video of containers in a yard]

Conversion Plant Visit

LD2910193189

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 29 October as part of its "Vremya" newscast carries a 5-minute S. Andreyev video report from Czechoslovakia, showing conversion in action, starting with a converted tank being used to pull storm-felled trees out of a river. The problem now being faced is what will happen to the workers in works that used to make military technology now that the demand has fallen, Andreyev says as video shows a Soviet delegation led by Baklanov, secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU visiting such works, including the Tesla works which produces aircraft. Andreyev says there is a need for closer cooperation in conversion.

At the LET Kunovice combine the L-410 plane is built for supply to the USSR, among other places. A new aircraft, the L-610, which is more spacious, has already been designed, Andreyev explains over video of the interior of the works, people working on an aircraft, including planes bearing in Cyrillic: "L410uyp-3" and the Aeroflot symbol.

Andreyev concludes the report by noting that there will be another working meeting in December to discuss cooperation between the two countries, as video shows Baklanov at a test flight of the L-610.

27 Oct Departure

LD2710173889 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1343 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Prague, 27 Oct, (TASS)—Today, O. D. Baklanov, CPSU Central Committee secretary who was in the CSSR at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] on a working visit left Prague for Moscow. At the airport he was seen off by F. Hanus, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and other officials.

V.P. Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR, was among the seeing-off party.

CSSR Premier Cited on Economic, Political Tasks

PM2510143189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
25 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent L. Kornilov dispatch: "L. Adamec: People Want to Conduct a Dialogue"]

[Text] Prague—"I know that perestroika in the Soviet Union is associated with tremendous difficulties, that it is a complex process. Of course, we are following attentively the progress of Soviet perestroika, because its success will be a success for the CSSR too," Czechoslovak Premier L. Adamec declared in an interview with correspondents of three Austrian newspapers.

Speaking about the internal political situation in Czechoslovakia, L. Adamec recalled that the federal government formed last October had proclaimed a reduction of 1 year in the time for implementing economic reforms. "We are keeping our promise," the premier continued. "In mid-November we will submit to the CSSR Federal Assembly deputies a report on the realization of the government statement. The complexity of the contemporary tasks stems, by the way, from the fact that we began the economic reform later than was necessary. The reform is complicated by imbalance in the national economy, and the government is fighting stagnation in the whole sphere of management—from ministries to enterprises. People's thinking is burdened by the past 40 years of directive leadership of the economy."

After characterizing the Czechoslovak Government as the government of the entire National Front, L. Adamec pointed out that, to judge from public opinion research and from numerous meetings with people, there is very great interest in politics now. People want to conduct a dialogue and are indicating problems and putting forward suggestions. As for the government, it pursues a policy of openness [glasnost].

Dwelling on the question of human rights, L. Adamec said that the foreign press does not always provide full and objective information on the situation regarding them in Czechoslovakia. The Austrian journalists were told, in particular, about a number of positive changes with regard to the Catholic Church, about the preparation of a new CSSR Constitution and other important changes in legislation, and about the simplifying of travel to capitalist countries for Czechoslovak citizens. After noting that "pluralism of views is nothing alien to us" and explaining the CSSR Government's stand on the activities of informal public organizations, L. Adamec said: "We are convinced that they have an opportunity to show their worth within the framework of the National Front's activity. We do not fear criticism; if it is aimed at rectifying and supporting the socialist system, we do not evade it. But if it pursues the aim of liquidating the socialist system, we will not embark on such a dialogue."

Romanian Defense Minister Writes on Army Day*PM2610140789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 25 Oct 89 First Edition p 3*

[Article by Colonel General Vasile Milea, Romanian national defense minister, under the rubric "Today Is Romanian Army Day": "Together With the People"—editorial afterword states: "The article was organized at KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's request by TASS correspondents in Romania"]

[Excerpts] This year Romanian Army Day is being celebrated in an atmosphere of revolutionary enthusiasm and inspired patriotic work. Servicemen, like all the party and the people, are working selflessly to worthily greet the great forum of Communists to be held in November this year. In indissoluble unity of will and feeling with all the working people, our Army takes unbounded pride in supporting the decision of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] Central Committee June Plenum to reelect Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu to the supreme post of general secretary of the RCP at the 14th party congress, seeing this choice—politically fundamental to the fate of the Romanian people—as a reliable guarantee of the successful implementation of the broad programs for socioeconomic development and the motherland's progress toward communism.

The decision of our party and our state to celebrate 25 October as Army Day is an expression of the high appraisal which the Romanian people make of the heroism and bravery of their servicemen who sacrificed their lives in the name of the country's freedom and independence. It was thanks to these qualities and with the special contribution of the Romanian Army that the last population centers in the northwest of the country—the cities of Carei and Satu Mare—were liberated from the Horthy-Hitler occupiers 25 October 1944. "Let this day," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu stressed, "serve as a constant reminder to the Army and all the people of what must be done to ensure that even the smallest piece of our land never again falls under foreign domination." [passage omitted]

As is well known, on 23 August this year the Romanian people celebrated the 45th anniversary of the victory of the antifascist, anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation. This is a great national red-letter day which marks an epoch-making moment in the existence of Romania. It was then that the path was opened for major revolutionary transformations and the guarantee of the country's independence, sovereignty, and freedom. In the 4 and ½ decades which have passed since those historic events, particularly in the period begun by the Ninth RCP Congress (1965), profound transformations have been carried out in Romania. Our country has been radically transformed, against the background of the creation of a new, socialist society. From being a poorly developed, agro-industrial country, it has developed into a socialist country with modern industry and advanced socialist agriculture. Art, science, culture, and education have also developed.

The total elimination of our foreign debt in March this year was a success of historic significance. Now, for the first time in its entire existence, our country is really independent from both the economic and the political viewpoints. We managed to eliminate our foreign debt in conditions where the rate of the country's development did not slow down for a single minute and we continued to construct grandiose projects and to powerfully develop all sectors of the national economy, allocating more than 2,000 billion lei for the country's socioeconomic development while at the same time constantly improving the people's material and spiritual living standard.

We can say with pride that during this period the Army has made a significant contribution to the country's grandiose successes through its active involvement in the development of the national economy. It has worked selflessly and with commitment, shoulder to shoulder with all the working people.

Impressive changes have been made in the life of the Army on the basis of these results and the profound revolutionary transformations which have taken place in our society. The quintessence of these changes is this: The substantiation and constant enrichment by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, our supreme commander in chief, of the original scientific concept of defending the motherland through armed struggle by the whole people and of our national military doctrine, and the creation of a comprehensive national defense system ensuring, if necessary, that all human and material potential takes part in defending the country.

On its anniversary, highly appraised by the party, state, and all the Romanian people, and on the eve of the 14th RCP Congress the Romanian Army is a complex military organ, harmoniously structured and very cohesive, boundlessly loyal to the motherland, the party, and our supreme commander in chief, and closely linked with the people. Armed with the latest combat equipment, most of it made by our national defense industry, our Army is ready to fulfill its sacred mission at any moment: to defend the revolutionary socialist gains, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of socialist Romania.

Basing their activity on party resolutions, the laws of the country, the creativity of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, the requirements of our national military doctrine, and the tenets of the supreme commander in chief's directive on the military-political training of the Army, Romanian servicemen devote all their strength to implementing the domestic and foreign policy of the party and state.

The Army is entrusted with major duties in enhancing its combat capability and molding young servicemen with a high degree of patriotic, socialist, revolutionary awareness. Under the influence of party organs and organizations, our Army represents a school of political-patriotic and civic education for the younger generation and

instills a sense of pride in our remarkable achievements, as well as faith in the triumph of socialist and communist principles.

Party leadership of the Army is a fundamental principle of its existence, an inexhaustible source of strength and might, and the guarantee that it will always honorably fulfill its mission. Regular meetings between the top party leadership and the Army's party and command cadres, participation in tactical exercises, visits to military units, and exhibitions of the achievements of our national defense industry are all evidence of tireless, unrelenting activity devoted to the task of socialist building and the task of strengthening the motherland's defense capability.

An indisputable reality is that, within the framework of our national military doctrine, our Army constantly strengthens and consolidates its indissoluble ties with the people, which is the most shining age-old tradition. Like every son of socialist Romania, our Army servicemen have been educated in the spirit of friendship, cooperation, and solidarity with socialist countries, with national liberation movements, and with all progressive forces. Our Army develops relations of cooperation and friendship with the armies of the Warsaw Pact member-states and the armies of all socialist countries and broadens ties with the armies of other states in the interests of collaboration between nations, security, and peace.

The defense capability of the Warsaw Pact must be consolidated even further. Especially as, despite some progress in the disarmament sphere, the NATO bloc is modernizing its combat equipment and arms and carrying out large-scale exercises, which poses a constant danger to socialism, peace, and security.

On the anniversary of the Romanian Army, we pay a tribute of deep respect to the Romanian servicemen and officers and all those who gave their lives for the defeat of fascism, the liberation of the motherland, the triumph of the great ideals of social and national justice, and the freedom and independence of all peoples. We also honor the memory of the servicemen of the glorious Soviet Army, which suffered major casualties in the struggle against fascism, and also the servicemen of the other armies in the antifascist coalition, partisans, and fighters in the resistance movement in all countries of the world.

The bonds of friendship and cooperation between the Romanian and Soviet Armies are also expanding in the spirit and on the firm foundations of the fruitful, multifaceted ties between Romania and the Soviet Union. The meetings, talks, and accords between Comrade N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP and president of Romania, and Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, are a decisive factor in the development and diversification of these good relations. Each time, they have imparted new scope to bilateral

collaboration in the interests of the two peoples' well-being and the cause of peace and socialism.

"The Army will continue to have great significance," it is stated in the Theses for the 14th RCP Congress, "in defending the revolutionary achievements of the people and the independence and national sovereignty of the socialist society." Proud of the country's bright future, Romanian Army servicemen are fully resolved to greet the forum of the country's Communists with major work and have solemnly pledged to do everything possible for the country's continued prosperity, to constantly strengthen its defense capability, and to bring glory and greatness to our much-loved country—the Socialist Republic of Romania.

West Europe

First Western Official To Visit PRC Since June

OW2710142789 Moscow International Service
in Mandarin 1400 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] In his speech broadcast by the radio station of Finland, Pertti Salolainen, foreign trade minister of Finland, said that he is scheduled to visit China in the next month. He is going to have talks on the issue of bilateral trade while in Beijing. Salolainen said: We are very interested in promoting the sales of our timber and light industrial products in the Chinese market.

The Finnish minister will be the first Western official to visit China since the 4 June Tiananmen Square incident.

More Reportage on Gorbachev's Visit to Finland

Roundup of Last Day

LD2710202789 Moscow TASS in English 1946 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev who paid an official visit to Finland at the invitation of President Mauno Koivisto concluded the visit and returned to Moscow today.

On the third, final day of the visit, the head of the Soviet State visited the Finnish parliament. Speaker of parliament Kalevi Sorsa summed up the main directions of the activity of Finland's supreme legislative body and of its committees and commissions.

The ceremony of the send-off of the Soviet guests was held in the square in front of the residence of the Finnish president.

Supreme military honours were accorded to the head of the Soviet state.

A guard of honour was lined up. The national anthems of the two countries were performed.

People of the Finnish capital greeted Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife.

Then Soviet guests left Helsinki for the city of Oulu, a major industrial, scientific and technological centre in the north of Finland. The Soviet guests were accompanied on the trip by President Mauno Koivisto and his wife.

The Soviet president was greeted by people of this ancient Finnish city with posters saying "welcome", with flowers and flags.

In the city hall, Jorma Seppanen, chairman of the elective local government body, presented Gorbachev with a medal of Oulu.

The guests visited the local university where 8.5 thousand students study, and went to the university's "Park of Technology".

This specialised centre provides computer services for industrial companies using complex technology.

Gorbachev and persons accompanying him left Oulu for home.

Visit to Finnish Parliament

PM3010161589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
28 Oct 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Visit to Parliament"]

[Text] On the morning of 27 October M.S. Gorbachev, R.M. Gorbacheva, and the Soviet delegation visited the Finnish parliament.

Kalevi Sorsa, speaker of the parliament, introduced his colleagues to the guests, showed them the parliamentary premises, and spoke about the history of the Finnish parliament from its inception in 1809 to the present day.

A conversation took place. It is perfectly obvious right now, K. Sorsa said, that this visit is a historic one. This is how the Finnish people are evaluating it. M.S. Gorbachev's visit to the Finnish parliament will go down in history. We will proceed from this in developing our relations with the new Soviet parliament—the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Replying to K. Sorsa, M.S. Gorbachev said: Being here gives us yet another opportunity to express our respect for the Finnish people and their authoritative representatives. It is important to ensure that the contribution of the Finnish parliament and the USSR Supreme Soviet and their relations are in line with the achieved level of Soviet-Finnish collaboration. I hope that they will together ponder their role in the light of the new stage of relations between our states.

Supreme Soviet deputies are now taking a great interest in the work of the parliaments of other countries. Yesterday President M. Koivisto and I discussed the need to have a mechanism to back and monitor the implementation of achieved accords. Our parliaments and their regular contacts should be one of the most important components in this mechanism.

It is even more pleasant for me to talk about the prospects of interparliamentary ties between the USSR and Finland since the Finnish parliament is headed by Kalevi Sorsa, who has made a great personal contribution to the development of friendly Finnish-Soviet relations and is a statesman of international caliber. M.S. Gorbachev emphasized in concluding the meeting.

K. Sorsa asked for an official invitation to send a delegation to Finland to be conveyed to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Conversation With Oulu Citizens

LD2810043189 Moscow Television Service
in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Video report by Tikhomirov, identified by caption, from Oulu, Finland; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] [Tikhomirov] [Passage indistinct] flight to Oulu in the northwest of Finland. Oulu is the Finnish backwoods, if such a concept exists in the highly developed countries of Europe, and Finland is just such a country. There is none of the difference here between life in the capital and life in the provinces that we know. And the welcome given the Soviet president may well be even greater in emotional terms than it was in Helsinki, because it follows Gorbachev's evening yesterday at the Finlandia Palace. Heads of state meet face to face, but the results of their conversation affect everyone. [passage omitted] [Video shows Oulu from the air and Oulu airport; USSR and Finnish flags flying and waiting crowds. Gorbachev shakes hands with the crowds, thanking them for the welcome; Raisa shakes hands with several in crowd; cut to Gorbachev and entourage advancing toward crowds]

[Gorbachev, looking at small child in crowd] They'll be the citizens. It will be for them to continue. Thank you for your welcome.

[Crowd] Welcome to Oulu. Come again, many times.

[Gorbachev] I'm very glad that we've come here. [Urging Koivisto forward] Look, the president's hidden himself away somewhere. [Koivisto moves forward] I'd like to tell you that I've talked a great deal to the president over these 2 days. Relations between us have been good and are going to be better."

[Unidentified older woman in crowd speaks in Finnish; interpreter translates to Russian] And we'll keep an eye on that, all of us.

[Gorbachev] Not just keep an eye on it, but work toward it, too. [Woman briefly takes Gorbachev's hand] And I have to say that the Finns know how to work. And we need to do a bit more work, too.

[Passage omitted on Tikhomirov comments] [Video shows more crowds as Gorbachev approaches town hall, where he stops to wave to crowd from the steps. Inside

Gorbachev is seen shaking hands and greeting officials prior to an awards ceremony; Yakovlev shown looking on]

[Unidentified speaker] Mr General Secretary, I have the honor to ask you to accept a medal from Oulu in memory of your stay in our town.

[Gorbachev] I'd like to thank you [applause]...I'd like to thank you and all the residents of Oulu for the hospitality, the attention they have shown, and the sense of friendship we encountered from the very first moments of our stay. We are happy that our schedule has brought us here, to the north of Finland. That was the design of myself and Finland President Koivisto. And we very much want, time allowing, to get to know those who live here. I'd like to say that the main part, the political part, let's say, of the visit is behind us; now we have the more human part, the contacts. [laughs] And we await these meetings. I'd like to tell you that the president and I—we spoke of this last night—are most satisfied with the political results of this visit, and we hope that the citizens of Oulu will make their own contribution to the development of Soviet-Finnish relations in the new phase that is opening up before our countries and our peoples at the moment.

I thank you once again on behalf of myself, my wife, and our entire delegation for the honor done them, and we express (?our gratitude). [Video shows Gorbachev seated with Raisa as Finns sing and play folk instruments in their honor] [passage omitted]

Discussion With Oulu Students

LD2810045589 Moscow Television Service
in Russian 1800 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Video report by unidentified correspondent from Oulu, Finland; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] The next stop on Gorbachev's Oulu visit is the university. And right away there is an unexpected welcome at the entrance. [Video shows Gorbachev, Raisa, Yakovlev, and others arriving at the university; they are greeted by men in rescue outfits with tracker dogs]

[Gorbachev to rescue workers] Hello, cordial greetings...

[Correspondent] I met these Finnish students, rescue workers, each with his dog, in Armenia last December among the ruins of Leninakan and Spitak.

[Gorbachev, continues] ...for all that you did, [words indistinct] in Armenia [words indistinct], on behalf of all our people, thank you. What you did is stronger than any words. Thank you.

[Correspondent] Oulu University is well-known in Europe. The Finns say that the scientific elite is trained here. And of course there are, and have been for a long

time, ties between the researchers, students, and lecturers and Soviet higher education. [Video shows Gorbachev speaking to a group of university representatives]

[Interpreter] We have Soviet scientists here.

[Gorbachev, shaking hands with Soviet scientist] On what terms?

[Soviet scientist] I'm here on a (?6-month) attachment organized through the State Education Committee.

[Gorbachev] Where are you from?

[Scientist] Leningrad. [Words indistinct]

[Gorbachev] Is it interesting?

[Scientist] Yes, it's interesting. [words indistinct]

[Raisa Gorbachev, to scientist and unidentified man] Let me introduce you, a Leningrader. [video shows handshake]

[Scientist] [Words indistinct] I'm from your constituency. [laughter]

[Gorbachev, to unidentified man] You had to come here to (?meet) the voters. [laughter]

[Gorbachev to scientist] What level of research?

[Scientist] [Word indistinct] and a wealth of international contacts, which is the distinctive thing about the laboratories here—both with the West and the East. And I like this kind of setting. When there are contacts with scientists from different countries, new ideas emerge and the work goes faster.

[Gorbachev] What's your level of qualification?

[Scientist] Me—candidate of technical science. But, Academician Marchuk has been here in the laboratory [indicating man beside him]. This is Seppo Litovori, my supervisor [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev to supervisor] What do you think of the contacts?

[Supervisor speaks in Finnish; interpreter translates to Russian] There is a lot of contact between us. With Odessa State University, [word indistinct] sensors, sensors. We are developing sensors like this and measuring (?degrees) to obtain the efficiency coefficient.

[Gorbachev, laughing] It's hard to translate, hard to translate.

[Scientist to Gorbachev] We are working together, jointly studying methods of producing them both in Leningrad and in Oul. A certain degree of success has been achieved here in the production of (?film) experiments with a conversion temperature of over [word indistinct] and this opens up great prospects for the use of superconducting objects in electronics.

[Correspondent] A luncheon was held here together with the students and lecturers. The town mayor was there as well. [Video shows lunch; Gorbachev chatting over the table]

[Gorbachev] ...and what do the students say? Are there enough books or not?

[Unidentified Finn in Finnish via interpreter] No, there aren't. [laughter]

[Gorbachev] In any case, you can't read every book. [laughter]

[Finn] You have to choose the most important ones.

[Gorbachev] And then, as far as I remember—Raisa Maksimovna studied and taught philosophy—the main issue is that of attaining knowledge, of progressing from one level of understanding to another. But at one point I discovered that the process of learning consists of proceeding from ignorance to even greater ignorance. [laughter] Because the more you know, the more you feel you know nothing at all.

[Raisa Gorbachev] That's from Socrates: All I know is that I know nothing.

[Gorbachev] Yes, yes.

[Oulu mayor] [words indistinct]

[Gorbachev] Yes, you're right. The same's true of politics. Only it's not 4 or 5 that appear, but 40 or 50. [chuckles]

[?Koivisto], via interpreter] For some years now, I have been working on research [words indistinct], and the conclusion I have reached is that there is no need at all to read all the documents they place in front of you. (?I'd like to say) that it's a waste of time, but sometimes it's even dangerous to read them all.

[Gorbachev] Ah, Mr president. you know what conclusion I have reached? When they give you something to read, you shouldn't rush to read it. Once 3 or 5 days have passed, or half a month, its out of date and turns out to be unnecessary. [laughter] But that's also a scientific generalization. [laughter]

[Correspondent] The conversation also, of course, touched on the quality of student training, a very important matter now, both for us and for the Finns, because it was decided that graduation certificates will be recognized in both countries. People asked all kinds of questions.

This part of Oulu is known as the Technological Village. [Video shows Gorbachev motorcade coming to a halt] It's a kind of Akademgorodok; the only difference that all the research in this scientific center, financed 50-50 by the town authorities and joint-stock societies, is closely linked with up-to-date manufacturing. You think of it, we'll do it, is the principle underlying this alliance—as we could call it—of science and labor. [passage

omitted] [Video shows Gorbachev, Raisa, and Yakovlev being shown around the center]

[Unidentified official to Gorbachev] I would like to present you with a gift from the collective [word indistinct]. It's a device for measuring your pulse.

[Gorbachev] Ah.

[Official] A piece of engineering.

[Raisa Gorbachev] I'll have to study this closely. [laughter] [Picks up some of the gadgets] Wonderful.

[Gorbachev to official] An even better present for me would be a device for studying the pulse of the country. [laughter] But that's for next time. This is a good memento. And most importantly, a useful one.

[Video shows Gorbachev at the airport, walking towards his aircraft; correspondent A. Tikhomirov approaches him]

[Tikhomirov] Mikhail Sergeyevich, can you (?say a few words)?

[Gorbachev] Do we have time? Go ahead.

[Tikhomirov] The traditional question: What are your feelings on leaving Finland?

[Gorbachev] A feeling of great satisfaction. We have done some good work here; we've done some good work here together with the president. And, I'm highly impressed with everyone here, with the contact we've been afforded here by the Finnish people. They are old and reliable friends of our's. I think this visit is a major event not only in our relations, but in world politics as well. We still have to think over everything that has happened here. It's been a good visit. [Gorbachev shakes hands with individuals; climbs aboard the aircraft; Koivisto and wife wave goodbye; aircraft takes off]

Activities in Oulu

PM3010170189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
28 Oct 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS reportage: "M.S. Gorbachev's Visit to Finland Ends"]

[Excerpts] Oulu, 27 Oct—Just over an hour's flight-time, and the aircraft carrying M.S. Gorbachev landed at the airport of Oulu City. The exceptionally warm and cordial welcome accorded to the Soviet leader by the inhabitants probably made everyone forget that Oulu is located pretty close to the Arctic Circle. It seemed that the entire population of this small city of around 96,000 inhabitants had turned out to welcome the Soviet head of state. [passage omitted]

Thousands of people were waiting at the entrance to Oulu University. [passage omitted]

University Rector Kalevi Korhonen briefed M.S. Gorbachev on the work of the university, which is one of the

country's biggest higher education establishments. The humanities, natural and technical sciences, and socio-economic disciplines are represented here. Some 8,500 students study here at five faculties. The university currently has more than 40 cooperation agreements with universities in other countries, including Soviet universities and higher education establishments.

Acquainting themselves with the university, M.S. Gorbachev and R.M. Gorbacheva stopped in front of stands displaying diagrams about scientific research carried out at the university and listened with interest to the explanations provided. Scientists at this northern Finnish scientific center devote much attention to questions of ecology and antipollution protection of forest tracts and the air, and specifically to the development of highly sensitive environmental monitoring sensors. The hosts stressed the great benefit which they derive from cooperation with the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The conversation near the stands took place to begin with through an interpreter, but then switched to Russian: Explanations were given by Candidate of Technical Sciences S.F. Karmanenko from Leningrad, who is on a 10-month scientific exchange in Oulu. Oulu and Leningrad scientists are jointly developing sensor devices, including membrane elements for communication systems. Ending his explanations, the Soviet scientist turned to B.V. Gidaspov, first secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Oblast Committee, who was standing next to him: "I come from your electoral okrug, Boris Venyaminovich," he said with a smile.

In the library reading room where students had gathered, relaxed conversations took place. Noticing a book in English on the table in front of one of the students, M.S. Gorbachev asked him how many languages he knew in all. Ari Kreis replied that in addition to Finnish and English he also spoke Swedish. Kreis is a 4th-year student who will soon graduate as a mechanical engineer.

Mikhail Sergeyevich was asked about the situation concerning religious freedom in the USSR. In our country religion is separate from the state, he replied, and we are doing everything to ensure that all religions—Orthodox, Muslim, and others—can avail themselves of the conditions created as a result of perestroika. Believers in turn take an active part in perestroika. Shortly the Supreme Soviet will adopt a law on freedom of conscience, which will provide a legal basis for religious freedom. [passage omitted]

The last stop in Oulu before the party flew out was the "technology village" where, in cooperation with the university, modern technologies and developments are displayed.

A TASS correspondent asked V.I. Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee and a member of the Soviet delegation, to comment on the results of M.S. Gorbachev's visit. He said: In my opinion the visit has been very successful. President M. Koivisto of Finland and Foreign Minister P. Paasio have

described it as historic. It is impossible to disagree. The visit went beyond the framework of our bilateral relations. It has an all-European and universal human significance. The declaration signed yesterday by M.S. Gorbachev and M. Koivisto accords fully with the new logic, the logic of the new political thinking. The speech at the "Finlandia" Palace contained far-reaching proposals for preserving and strengthening peace, detente, and disarmament in the North of Europe and promoting the solution of environmental problems in this region and cooperation in the humanitarian sphere. All these questions form the most important part of the all-European process which works toward democratization and the humanization of international relations.

The brief but very busy visit to Oulu was nearing its end. All along the route to the airport the Soviet leader was greeted by the city's inhabitants. At the aircraft steps M.S. Gorbachev and R.M. Gorbacheva cordially took leave of M. Koivisto and his wife. The aircraft headed for Moscow.

Responses to Gorbachev Finland Visit Viewed

PM3010115589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
29 Oct 89 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by special correspondents V. Drobkov and Yu. Kuznetsov: "Broad Response Elicited by Results of M.S. Gorbachev's Visit to Finland"]

[Text] Helsinki, 28 Oct—President Mauno Koivisto of Finland has returned by air to the capital from Oulu together with Finnish journalists. They naturally wanted to hear his opinion of the visit which M.S. Gorbachev has just concluded to this country.

"Of course, the visit was successful, really successful," the president declared.

Speaking about the results of the visit, the Finnish press emphasizes that it took place in a truly friendly and warm atmosphere. We ourselves witnessed this. The Soviet guests were given a particularly cordial welcome in Oulu, where the city's entire population seemed to have taken to the streets to greet them.

"M. Gorbachev's visit has been the most significant state visit in Finland's history," the evening newspaper ILTA-LEHTI writes, emphasizing that "this trip has already attracted broad international attention. This is, above all, because M. Gorbachev's main speech in the Finlandia Palace marked a clear, new step toward world peace in our new time. People will be talking about that speech for a long time to come."

"Both the declaration and M. Gorbachev's speech are exceptionally important," Finnish Environment Minister K. Barlund told PRAVDA's correspondents. "But I believe that the Finnish-Soviet agreements which have just been signed on cooperation in the matter of protecting the environment are also of historic significance."

These and other specific aspects of possible cooperation between the Soviet country and the countries of the European North have become subjects of active analysis here in recent days.

"The Nordic countries should take advantage of M. Gorbachev's proposals"—this, for example, is the view of the leadership of the Swedish People's Party here. "By making use of the potential for cooperation afforded by the Soviet Union, they can play an appreciable role in the processes of all-European integration."

The initiatives advanced by the Soviet leader are also being discussed animatedly in other Nordic countries. "Positive reaction in Norway"—this is how the Norwegians' response to the Soviet leader's speech is reported here. Many politicians in Oslo welcome the proposals for reducing tension in the northern region. AFTENPOSTEN, a leading Norwegian newspaper, writes that in this connection J.P. Syse, the new prime minister, called M.S. Gorbachev's initiative positive.

Danish Foreign Minister U. Ellemann-Jensen welcomed the Soviet proposals for setting up closer contacts with Nordic countries and the Nordic Council and for lowering the level of arms in the Baltic.

The Swedish press singled out aspects of European economic cooperation touched on in M.S. Gorbachev's speech. EXPRESSEN writes, in particular, that that speech "traced still more clearly the outline" of the European home.

At the same time Finnish newspapers point out today that the first responses from across the ocean "are of a critical nature." In particular, the United States rejects the proposal concerning a nuclear-free zone in the European North.

Well, the major initiatives advanced in Helsinki during these days probably will not at once meet with everyone's full understanding and support. The Soviet Union and Finland have once again made a bold breakthrough into the future and taken a look at the prospect for the development of the situation in Europe. And this in turn will help to create a more humane world directed toward the needs and aspirations of mankind. As M.S. Gorbachev pointed out at his meeting with Finnish and Soviet journalists in the Finlandia Palace, our countries have long been working to build the common European home. In this they are out in front, fulfilling truly pioneering work.

Yakovlev, Finnish Party Leaders View Ties

PM3010110189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Meetings in Helsinki"]

[Text] Helsinki, 26 Oct—A.N. Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had meetings with the leadership of a number of Finland's political parties within the framework of the

official visit to Finland by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 25 October in Helsinki, including the following:

The Finnish Communist Party [SKP]—J. Wahlstrom, party chairman; A. Aitamurto, deputy party chairman; H.M. Tammissola, general secretary; and I. Lindeberg, head of the SKP Central Committee International Department;

The Finnish Communist Party (Unity)—E.J. Tennila, party chairman; M.-L. Loyttyjarvi, deputy party chairman; Y. Hakanen, general secretary; and E. Laine, member of the Politburo;

The Finnish Social-Democratic Party [SSDP]—P. Paasio, party chairman and Finnish foreign minister; K. Sorsa, member of the SSDP Executive Committee, deputy chairman of the Socialist International, and chairman of the Finnish Parliament; M. Ahde and P. Ala-Kapee, deputy party chairmen; U. Iivari, general secretary; R. Tuominen, chairman of the SSDP Council; and J. Elo, head of the SSDP International Department;

The National Coalition Party—I. Suominen, party chairman and Finnish minister of trade and industry; I. Kanerva, member of the National Coalition Party Board; and minister of the chancellery; and P. Kivela, party general secretary.

The stable and constructive development of political, economic, and other relations between the two countries and the significance of M.S. Gorbachev's current visit in giving them new impetus and enriching the forms and content of Soviet-Finnish cooperation were pointed out at the meetings.

Satisfaction was expressed at the positive processes that are increasingly gaining momentum on the European continent and in the world as a whole. Particular attention was devoted to the prospects for creating a common European home, and the continuity of the ideas and spirit of Helsinki in this matter was stressed.

Questions of ties and relations between the CPSU and the Finnish parties concerned were discussed at the meetings. It was deemed advisable to diversify the forms of mutual contacts and exchanges and target them on solving specific practical tasks in the sphere of Soviet-Finnish relations and—in a broader context—cooperation on our continent as a whole, in the sphere of ecology, for instance.

During conversations with the SKP, Finnish Communist Party (Unity), and SSDP leaderships, questions of developing dialogue and cooperation among Europe's leftwing forces were also broached and in this connection the prospects for holding a forum of the continent's left forces in fall 1990 were discussed.

A.N. Yakovlev told the leaders of Finland's political parties about the progress of perestroika in the Soviet Union, the tasks being resolved at the current phase, and

the work of the present USSR Supreme Soviet session and informed them about the incipient preparations for the 28th CPSU Congress.

The meetings took place in a warm and constructive atmosphere. CPSU Central Committee members B.I. Aristov, USSR ambassador to Finland, and V.V. Zagladin, adviser to the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, took part in the conversations.

A.N. Yakovlev had a meeting here today with the leadership of the Finnish Center Party—P. Vayrynen, party chairman; M. Pura and O. Rehn, deputy party chairmen; S. Kaariainen, general secretary; K. Juhan-talo, chairman of the parliamentary group; and O. Mat-tila, head of the International Department.

During the conversation both sides noted the successful development of Soviet-Finnish relations and touched on their prospects in the light of M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Finland. They stressed the importance of the ecological aspect in cooperation between the two countries and in the broader international context. The participants in the meeting spoke with satisfaction about the positive trends determining the current political climate in Europe. A.N. Yakovlev spoke about the progress of perestroika in Soviet society. They also examined ques-tions of contacts between the CPSU and the Finnish Center Party.

V.V. Zagladin took part in the meeting.

Yakovlev Cited on Neutral Finland's Role

*PM3010162789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Second Edition p 7*

[V. Drobkov and Yu. Kuznetsov dispatch: "Second Day of the Visit"]

[Excerpts] Helsinki, 26 Oct—The second day of the visit to Finland by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, is proceeding like the first day in accordance with a busy program full of meetings and talks. [passage omitted]

"All the leaders of various Finnish political parties with whom I have now had the chance to meet are expressing firm confidence that the processes of perestroika in our country will continue to move forward and that difficul-ties will be overcome." A.N. Yakovlev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, told us. "They are forming their plans for the future development of rela-tions with us on this basis. Our interlocutors believe that existing social and economic problems will be resolved only on the path of perestroika. At the same time they connect not only the long-term development of bilateral ties, but also the building of the common European home as a whole—a concept they firmly and actively support—with the success of our perestroika. Almost all the party leaders spoke about this, despite their differ-ences of opinion on other subjects of international

policy, including their evaluations of the development of the situation in Europe. They all advocate further expan-sion in our relations. Unusual unanimity was demon-strated in this matter."

On the subject of the atmosphere in which the visit is taking place, we cannot fail to note the Finns' particular satisfaction with the high evaluation that the Soviet leader gave to the foreign policy of neutral Finland and its constructive role in advancing the common European process. Newspapers are picking out M.S. Gorbachev's words on the significant contribution made by Finland to the cause of guaranteeing peace and security in northern Europe and on our whole continent.

As many Finnish politicians and observers have said, the traditional mutual understanding between our countries and their mutual readiness for further development in cooperation, which were clearly demonstrated in the course of the current visit, have now become a constant positive factor in European life, genuinely promoting favorable changes in this part of the world.

Air Links With Finland To Be Expanded

*PM2610111989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
26 Oct 89 Second Edition p 3*

[TASS report: "Aeroflot-Finnair Cooperation"]

[Text] The talks between the USSR's International Com-mercial Civil Aviation Administration and Finnair have ended in Moscow. An agreement has been signed on expanding cooperation in the sphere of international freight shipments, providing for an increase in the number of flights on the Moscow-Helsinki and Lenin-grad-Helsinki routes.

For the convenience of Finnish tourists heading for the Black Sea coast, Aeroflot will fly direct from Helsinki to Sochi and Simferopol as of next summer. Agreement has also been reached on the possibility of establishing direct Riga-Helsinki, Tallinn-Helsinki, and Murmansk-Rovaniemi air services. It is planned to open a Helsinki-Kiev route, with Aeroflot starting regular flights as of summer 1991 and Finnair initiating its service as of 1993.

Moreover, the talks discussed the possibility of cooper-ation between the two airlines in organizing New York-Moscow flights via Helsinki. Initially these will be based on convenient connections between Finnair and Aero-flot flights. In the second stage of cooperation it is planned to organize a joint direct Moscow-Helsinki-New York flight using Finnair aircraft.

CEMA, French Banks Sign Protocol

*PM2510150389 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
25 Oct 89 Second Edition p 4*

[TASS report: "Protocol Signed"]

[Text] A protocol has been signed on cooperation between the CEMA countries' collective bank—the International Economic Cooperation Bank—and Credit Lyonnais, one of France's largest commercial banks.

The protocol provides for the further development and consolidation of business relations between the two banks on a broad range of questions including collaboration in servicing new forms of economic cooperation between partners in France and the countries belonging to the International Economic Cooperation Bank.

Kryuchkov Receives Italian Ambassador 26 Oct

LD2710195489 Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Vladimir Kryuchkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the State Security Committee, received on Thursday [26 October] Italian Ambassador to the USSR Ferdinand Salleo, at the latter's request.

They discussed issues of mutual interest.

Italian Minister on Upcoming Gorbachev Trip

LD2710192389 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Rome October 27 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev's forthcoming trip to Italy will have immense political significance, but one should not underestimate its economic aspects, Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis said here today.

Italy and the Soviet Union, which maintain very good relations, can make a considerable contribution to politics, he observed.

The Italian minister, addressing newsmen at the Foreign Press Association in Rome, stated that the Soviet president's visit to Italy will be important not only for bilateral relations, but also for the entire world.

Latin America & Caribbean

Ortega on Electoral Process, Fate of Cease-fire

LD2910084989 Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose October 29 TASS—The electoral process in Nicaragua is encountering difficulties, especially the illegal policy of the United States against the republic, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega told a press conference on Saturday.

Nicaragua continues to remain the target of U.S. economic sanctions which run counter to the norms of international law.

Ortega took part in the meeting of heads of state and government of American countries in the Costa Rican capital.

The economic difficulties in Nicaragua, provoked by Washington, directly affect the electoral process in the country which needs considerable financial expenditure. U.S. economic blockade deprives Nicaragua of the necessary means for the normal preparation of elections.

"We view this as a plot against the electoral process in our country," Ortega said.

Another obstacle to the general elections in February 1990 and to the normalisation of the situation in Nicaragua on the whole is continuing terrorist acts by contras against civilians and government troops, as well as Washington aid to armed counterrevolutionaries.

"The United States made it clear that it is for retaining contras on the territory of Honduras in order to use them as an instrument of pressure on Nicaragua," he said. "To this end the U.S. Administration and congress continue financing contras."

Ortega reminded the press conference that he held a meeting with the leaders of the Sandinist People's Army and the Interior Ministry in Managua on October 21, where it was decided to stop the unilateral cessation of combat offensive operations by government troops against contras. Ortega said that the date on which this decision would come into force would be announced in Managua later.

This forced step, he said, is made in connection with stepped up terrorist activities by contras. Between March 24, 1988, when the Nicaraguan Government announced a unilateral ceasefire as a gesture of goodwill, and October 24 this year, 3,370 Nicaraguans fell victims to the criminal actions by contras. As many as 736 people died, the rest are wounded or kidnapped.

The so-called Nicaraguan Resistance, Ortega noted, released a statement which says that contras will neither lay down arms and nor demobilize. Therefore, he said, the cessation of the unilateral ceasefire aims to ensure the safety of civilians, to guarantee the normal development of electoral process, as well as to ensure the safety of international observers in Nicaragua who monitor preparations for the election.

At the same time, Ortega said, the difficult situation is not as hopeless as the U.S. would like to present it. The Nicaraguan Government is prepared to unilaterally resume the cessation of combat operations against contras if the United States gives up financing the counterrevolutionaries and gives 66 million dollars allocated for this purpose to the United Nations so that it can be used to demobilize the rebels.

Bush Speaks on Nicaraguan, Panamanian Situations

*LD2910101689 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT
29 Oct 89*

[Text] San Jose October 29 TASS—U.S. President George Bush spoke at a press conference in the Costa Rican capital on Saturday which was largely devoted to the American administration's attitude to Nicaragua and Panama. The press conference was held immediately after George Bush held negotiations with the representatives of Nicaraguan and Panamanian opposition. The U.S. President attended the meeting of heads of state and government of American countries.

Having stated support of the United States for the opposition leaders in Nicaragua and Panama, President Bush called them "brave and inspiring people...who deserve the active support of all who support democracy in this (Western) hemisphere."

At the same time he sharply attacked the governments of these states. The American President spoke in insulting tones about Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and his policy. According to Bush, there were some alarming signs in the run-up to elections in Nicaragua, due to be held in February next year. He said, in particular, that Ortega allegedly failed to fulfill obligations on holding talks with the opposition.

Moreover, Bush claimed that the Nicaraguan Government had violated its obligations in releasing political prisoners and giving the opposition "free and fair access to the media." However, it is well known that the Sandinist authorities had already set free nearly 2,000 political prisoners, while the opposition has practically unlimited opportunities for expressing its views in the press.

The decision of the Nicaraguan Government to end cease-fire was strongly criticised by the U.S. President.

On the situation in Panama, Bush said that "the outlaw Noriega regime simply must be replaced."

"The United States," he said, "will continue to work with the democracies in this hemisphere and around the world to support the struggle of the Panamanian people."

TASS Notes Bush, Ortega San Jose Meeting

*LD2810135389 Moscow TASS in English
1345 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica, October 28 TASS—U.S. President George Bush and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega attending the meeting of American leaders, which opened on Friday here, had a brief meeting.

Ortega told reporters afterwards that during the meeting he had emphasised the importance of resuming the U.S.-Nicaraguan dialogue with a view to normalising bilateral relations.

"I told President Bush that the United States has great experience in conducting dialogues, which it has shown in negotiations with the Soviet Union," the Nicaraguan president said.

He noted that the U.S. could play a very important role in Central American settlement.

Ortega asked Bush for U.S. recognition of the current election process in Nicaragua and results of the general elections, forthcoming next February.

He said Bush assured him that the United States would recognise the outcome of the Nicaraguan elections.

Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem, who was present at the brief unofficial meeting, described it as very positive. He expressed hope that an official dialogue between the United States and Nicaragua would be possible in the near future.

At the same time, the U.S. official reaction to the meeting was restrained. White House Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told newsmen that the two presidents shook hands and exchanged a couple of phrases.

Supreme Soviet Session

Concerns on Draft Exit Law Expressed

LD2110033789 Moscow in English to North America
2300 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Excerpts] The Committee for International Affairs of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has begun examining the draft law on the citizens's right to leave and re-enter the USSR. According to our reporter, the provisions of the draft law correspond with the Soviet Union's international commitments. [passage omitted]

The realization of the right to travel freely abroad may be gravely impeded by the economic situation that has developed in this country. In some estimates about 200,000 people are going to leave the Soviet Union this year. The new law may encourage even more people to leave. Hundreds of thousands of people will be willing to take advantage of the newly granted right and go abroad as tourists. But the state is unable to provide all these people with hard currency. The currency shortage makes it impossible for people to use the services of foreign air companies. And for the Soviet air company, Aeroflot, it has already sold tickets for flights, say, to the United States for 6 months in advance. The problem may be solved only with the introduction of a convertible ruble, but this could take years.

If the law on leaving and entering the Soviet Union is passed the country may run into the problem of a brain drain. The country may lose its best specialists just because they get for their work much less here than they would get in the West. In order to prevent the possibility of a brain drain the authorities have to reconsider the earnings of certain experts. But the country has not got enough money to raise sharply pay to some of its experts, so this may lead to the aggravation of social tension.

In short, we are dealing with a situation when political changes take place faster than economic reforms. The Supreme Soviet of the USSR is now engaged in the discussion of a package of laws expected to restructure the economy and make it more effective. This cannot happen overnight, however, so even if people acquire the official right to travel abroad freely not all of them will have the opportunity to use it.

Economic Reform Committee Supports Sitaryan

LD2010235289

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 20 October carries a 3-minute report by Andrew Nikiforov on today's session of the Committee for Economic Reform. Nikiforov explains that the Council of Ministers of the USSR has proposed to the Supreme Soviet that Stepan Aramaisovich Sitaryan be appointed as chairman of the State Foreign Economic Commission, and today's session of the Committee for Economic Reform considered his candidacy.

According to Nikiforov, Comrade Sitaryan believes that it is necessary to change the actual structure of the Soviet foreign economy and to decentralize the foreign economic sphere. "Convertability of the ruble, Stepan Aramasovich believes, must become the main means for tackling many problems of or foreign economic activity," Nikiforov explains. Nikiforov reports that "admittedly, almost all the deputies spoke in favor of the candidacy of Stepan Aramaisovich Sitaryan. The Committee for Economic Reform has unanimously supported the proposal of the Council of Ministers about appointing Comrade Sitaryan as chairman of the State Foreign Economic Commission of the USSR Council of Ministers."

'Heated' Debates on Election Law Amendments

PM2710150589 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 25 Oct 89 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "At the USSR Supreme Soviet. Amendments to the Constitution: Struggle of Opinions"]

[Text] The debate on the draft Law on Amendments and Additions to the USSR Constitution Regarding Questions of the Electoral System resumed at a joint sitting of the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities 24 October.

Positions clashed over the very first article under discussion and passions got so heated that A.I. Lukyanov, who was chairing the sitting, announced a 10-minute recess to somehow ease the tension. But the sense of responsibility and common sense did prevail: Deputies resumed the discussion of constitutional amendments in the traditional parliamentary atmosphere.

Yu.Kh. Kalmykov, deputy chairman of the Committee for Questions of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order, reported on the conclusions drawn at a conference of representatives of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and of all deputies' committees and commissions. Accepting a proposal by the chairman, deputies immediately moved on to examine the amendments article by article.

Speaking about Article 89, Yu.Kh. Kalmykov noted that the amendments to this article aim at restoring a uniform system of the state's representative organs, something which was omitted in the first version of the amendment. But Deputy F.M. Burlatskiy expressed the opinion that this version of the formulation is even more heavily weighted in favor of congresses of people's deputies in union and autonomous republics. The Congress of People's Deputies, he noted, is a unique institution which can and must exist only in the Union as a whole. He proposed to altogether dismiss the question of congresses of people's deputies for union and autonomous republics. But after his proposal was put to the vote, the majority of deputies agreed with the conference conclusions that the republics themselves should decide whether they would have congresses of people's deputies or not.

The article-by-article vote can be described as a "parade of amendments." After all, each one of them is the outcome of collective quest for the best possible alternative. Each one shows traces of today's persistent demand: To develop and improve the structure of power, to give broader scope to the implementation of the goals and tasks of the political and economic reforms.

By no means all amendments were perceived as equally satisfactory by all participants in the session. A number of parliamentarians totally disagreed with Article 91 of the USSR Constitution allowing direct election of soviet chairmen if a republic makes provision for such an eventuality within its own framework of power. Deputy V.I. Vorotnikov spoke categorically in favor of deleting this amendment. In his words, this is a vague formulation. We must not, he said, use it to conceal the essence of a question which was the topic of a very principled debate yesterday. In this case, in my view, the issue concerns not simply elections but actually the nature of power. Is this not likely to produce that which we already discussed here yesterday—a presidential form of government and elimination of the collegial soviet system of government in our country? If this were to happen, are we not likely to turn our soviet system "upside down"?

Deputy S.B. Stankevich spoke in favor of the article's amended formulation. Rejecting his fellow-deputy's arguments, he said:

"The proposed procedure for electing soviet chairmen by direct elections does not change the system of power, it changes the extent of powers we vest in a given organ without in any way changing the procedure for its election."

In his capacity as chairman, A.I. Lukyanov noted that the proposed amendment with its flexible formulation represents the consensus at which representatives of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and of the committees and commissions have arrived. It offers the republics an opportunity to resolve this question by themselves.

The last argument, which clearly and finally tilted the scales in favor of this amendment, was an announcement about numerous letters and telegrams from voters in support of at least local soviet chairmen being elected in direct elections. The amendment was passed by a majority of votes.

As was only to be expected from the discussion which took place yesterday and continued today at the conference of committee and commission representatives, the most extensive debate and diverse opinions were generated by Article 95. Even though the version proposed in the initial draft was strikingly different from the text adopted a year ago on the eve of the elections, the basic provision still remained intact: As before, its second paragraph talked of elections from public organizations. It must be said that this refinement of the electoral system was criticized both before the elections and at the Congress of People's Deputies itself. Quite naturally, now it generated arguments once more, despite the fact

that a "more toned-down version" produced by the Committee for Legislation was read out at the start of the discussion. Furthermore, A.I. Lukyanov recalled that some republics have already made provision for a regulation on elections from public organizations.

Nonetheless, hardly anyone could have imagined at the beginning of the discussion of this question that emotions aroused by just three short lines would rage for over 2 hours. But the very first question—exactly how many deputies had specifically spoken for and against elections from public organizations in the process of committee and commission debates—hinted at a definite prior division of opinions. The very fact that the screen initially showed that 395 deputies had registered, and 404 members of the Supreme Soviet had already assembled in the hall by the time a vote was taken on the fate of Article 95, was an indication of the mounting tension. The radio service just about managed to switch on the microphones in the hall. More than 30 deputies took part in the exchange of opinions, and probably an equal number failed to take the floor.

The speakers used much energy and "intraparliamentary diplomacy" in the argument. Someone assumed that, if it were to be decided to reject elections from public organizations, doubts would now arise about the competence and legitimacy of one-third of today's USSR people's deputies.

This forecast was rejected by Deputy V.I. Samarin on the grounds that today's abolition of elections from public organizations (the deputy being categorically in favor of such abolition) would in no way at all mean that any such elections in the past would be declared illegitimate. The representation of every organization can also be guaranteed in territorial okrug elections. Deputy V.P. Zolotukhin added.

By this time, deputies' speeches showed more and more traces of a desire for compromise. Some of them proposed to separate the Union aspect of the problem from its republican aspect, bearing in mind that sessions of the Russian, Ukrainian, and Belorussian Supreme Soviets are opening tomorrow and are due to make decisions on this question.

Deputy Ye.M. Primakov drew attention to the impermissibility of a different methodology of approach toward amendments: A vote had already been taken on the election of chairmen, and it was quite correctly said that the republics themselves should decide how to elect them. And now this sounds like a diktat addressed to the republics.

Other deputies also proposed that this question be left to the republics' discretion.

Deputy F.M. Burlatskiy called for the question to be approached not only from the juridical but also from the political perspective. If we were now to give the republics the right to decide on elections from public organizations, this would result in a most acute struggle. All new

organizations would start fighting for a "place in the sun" and this, in the deputy's opinion, would be politically inadvisable.

The people will not accept elections from public organizations, Deputy A.M. Obolenskiy declared, calling for a recommendation to the forthcoming Congress of People's Deputies to take a decision on holding a referendum on this issue.

Deputy M.A. Bocharov submitted a surprise proposal: To delete from the second paragraph of Article 95 everything that refers to the republics but to retain everything that refers to USSR people's deputies.

It appeared that consensus had been arrived at. But the noise in the hall did not abate. However, the debate could not continue indefinitely. The session is already past its midpoint, and if questions continue to be decided at this pace, the parliament is hardly likely to advance far in its legislative activity.

It was decided to close the debate after the speech by Deputy E.V. Bichkauskas, who proposed an alternative which was immediately backed by the Commission for Questions of Legislation in place of its initial proposal. "A part of USSR people's deputies are elected from public organizations"—this formulation was the first to be put to a roll call vote. The result appeared on the display screens: 162 in favor, 236 against.

A vote was then taken on a proposal made earlier—to completely delete the second paragraph of Article 95 concerning elections from public organizations. It was supported by 254 deputies, with 85 voting against.

Article 95 was thus adopted without its second paragraph.

Deputies then turned back to the contents of Article 96, namely its five points which were the subject of a question raised the day before by Deputy A.D. Sakharov. During the discussion on this article, Deputy Yu.Kh. Kalmykov noted, some deputies proceeded from the premise that if someone happens to be in detention, specifically in an investigative detention center, then—on the basis of the presumption of innocence—he ought not to be deprived of the right to vote. The Committee for Legislation noted in its conclusion that people are not deprived of their right to vote in such cases but, due to the fact that such persons are isolated from society on legitimate grounds and in conformity with the USSR Constitution, they do not participate in elections during the period of their detention. In order to provide guarantees for persons inside places of deprivation of freedom, the text was amended as follows: Persons who do not participate in elections are physically ill citizens adjudged as disabled by the court, persons detained in places of deprivation of freedom by virtue of either a court's decision or a prosecutor's authorization, and those sent to places of enforced treatment by virtue of a court's decision.

Following a brief debate, this amendment was put to the vote, but no vote was taken. The atmosphere in the hall, heated to its limit in the wake of the discussion of amendments to the previous article, had evidently had a pernicious effect on the electronic "brain" of the machine used to count the deputies' votes. It did not work the first time, and the chairman was forced to announce an unscheduled recess.

Passions had noticeably cooled after the recess, and a contribution to this was made by the appeal by a number of deputies worried by the excessive heat of emotions inside the hall and by the impression that many were mounting the rostrum not in order to seek a constructive solution but only to make the quest for such a solution more difficult. They proposed the composition of a juridical group from among USSR people's deputies to produce prompt commentaries on particular draft laws. In their opinion it is also necessary to produce provisional regulations for deputies containing an unambiguous provision about a more businesslike approach in their speeches.

These proposals were supported by the chairman. It seems to me, he said, that there must be greater faith in the committees and commissions which are doing additional work on the draft laws, especially since the way there is open to every deputy. If we were to start formulating articles and the finer points of the law only here, at the session, we could end up committing a lot of mistakes.

By that time the electronics were operational again, and the deputies adopted the amendments to Paragraph 5 of Article 96 as proposed by the committee.

Deputies I.O. Bisher, T.P. Buachidze, and others expressed their attitude toward the USSR Constitution's articles under discussion. Unfortunately, many deputies failed to identify themselves when reaching the microphone. Never mind, parliamentary standards have not yet been fully developed.

Taking the remarks and proposals into account, the session adopted the draft Law on Amendments and Additions to the USSR Constitution Regarding Questions of the Electoral System, and resolved to submit it for examination by the 2d Congress of USSR People's Deputies.

At the end of the sitting the deputies discussed the question of filling the vacant position of deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers who would head the USSR Council of Ministers State Foreign Economic Commission. The candidacy of S.A. Sitaryan, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, was submitted for deputies' consideration. Prior to this, it had been discussed in a number of committees and commissions and had withstood a "7-hour grilling." At the submission of N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and with due consideration for the opinions of committees and commissions, Ye.M. Primakov, who was in the chair at that time, briefly

described S.A. Sitaryan as a specialist who is well versed in the sphere of foreign economic ties, and proposed the confirmation of his appointment to the office of deputy head of government. The session approved this proposal.

Deputies will continue their work in committees and commissions 25 October. The session's next plenary sitting will be held on Monday, 30 October.

Legislation Committee Favors New Law on Rallies

LD2710171489 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1540 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow, 26 Oct (TASS)—TASS parliamentary correspondent reports from the Kremlin:

The USSR Supreme Soviet Committee on Issues of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order spoke today in favor of the elaboration of a new law on rallies and demonstrations in the Soviet Union strictly in conformity with the country's Constitution.

The parliamentary committee formed such an opinion after a thorough study, at the commission of the first Congress of People's Deputies, of the decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the holding of rallies which was adopted in the summer of last year. The Presidium of the Soviet parliament of the previous convocation had the right to adopt legislative acts.

The elaboration of such a decree was explained by the need to regulate phenomena which are new for the societal life of the USSR—street processions and rallies as a means of expressing the opinion of various organizations, including unofficial ones. In particular, it envisages that the organizers of the future rally should address a statement to the local bodies of power (to the effect that) it is being held.

It was namely this article which was sharply criticized by the Soviet public. In the press there were frequent examples given of many authorities in the localities interpreting it as the monopoly right to allow or not to allow various rallies. That led to the practice of applying the decree acquiring a clearly expressed prohibitive character, and that does not correspond to Article 50 of the USSR Constitution guaranteeing Soviet citizens the freedom of assemblies, rallies, street processions, and demonstrations.

The parliamentary committee recognized this normative act as not corresponding to the USSR Constitution. In the deputies' opinion, the new law ought to strictly observe the articles of the country's fundamental law and at the same time, clearly define the right of local authorities in protecting social order when mass rallies are being held.

The USSR Supreme Soviet is to take a definitive decision on this question.

Committee Discusses Socialist Enterprise Bill

LD2710205889 Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

Freedom for the enterprise to use the money it has earned is the principal idea of the draft law on socialist enterprise, tabled by the government to the Supreme Soviet in early October. The parliamentary committee on economic reform devoted today's and previous sessions to detailed discussion of the document.

The draft law, together with those on property, land, uniform taxation system and leasing, is to set the legal framework for the economic reform.

It provides for a drastic change in the enterprise-state relations. Hitherto, distribution and utilization of the money earned by the enterprise was rigidly controlled through directives.

The draft lifts all these restrictions. It will regulate the relation between the consumption and accumulation funds at the enterprise through the tax mechanism.

Specific proposals were put forward by the committee to improve the draft law.

Thus, Deputy Nikolay Bobritskiy from Belorussia said he favoured the distribution of net profit to be clearly determined together with the employee's labour input into the enterprise performance.

"It is important that every member of the labour collective clearly understand that his share is not only in the wages, but also in the 'invisible' inputs he can recover on leaving the work or going on a pension", Bobritskiy says. "On the one hand, this will stimulate workers to improve production and, on the other, to hold back unjustified wage increases without the application of fiscal methods".

Some committee members objected to such regulation of the profit distribution channels in the draft law. They said this would hamstring labour collectives' independence. However, the principled approach laid down in the government draft and supported by deputies was this: Each worker should be aware of being the enterprise co-owner.

Presidium Considers Bill on Leave

LD2810180889 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT
28 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—The Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers considered today the bill on leaves and noted that the operating procedure and terms of granting leaves are largely outdated and fail to meet modern requirements.

Numerous regulatory enactments on the matter lack coordination. The length of leave does not depend on the quality and quantity of labour and working conditions.

The Presidium approved the first-ever Soviet bill on leaves. The bill provides for granting longer minimum leaves on a more systematic basis.

High priority is given to the improvement of the system of leaves for workers in underground jobs and jobs in hazardous, and otherwise unfavourable conditions.

Measures have been determined to extend social leaves for war and labour veterans, partially disabled people and women with children.

The bill will be submitted to the USSR Supreme Soviet for consideration.

Gorbachev Chairs 30 Oct Session

LD3010081389 Moscow TASS in English 0728 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 30 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The USSR Supreme Soviet today reconvened for a joint sitting of the two councils under the chairmanship of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The deputies will hear conclusions drawn by parliamentary committees and commissions on drafts of a state economic and social development plan and budget of the country for 1990, and reports by the Council of Ministers and the USSR Ministry of Finance.

Then the deputies will discuss the documents which have been under scrutiny in standing parliamentary bodies since the session began in September.

Political & Social

Gorbachev, Delegation Return From Finland 27 Oct

LD2810100389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, president of the USSR Supreme Soviet and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow today after an official visit to the Republic of Finland at the invitation of President Mauno Koivisto. Returning with him were those who had accompanied him on the trip: Yakovlev, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Katushev, USSR minister of foreign economic relations; Vyalyas, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee; Gidasov, first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast CPSU Committee; and Kovalev, USSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

Officials Greet Gorbachev on Arrival

LD2710190189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1750 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct (TASS)—M.S. Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was on an official visit to the Republic of Finland at the invitation of President M. Koivisto returned to Moscow today.

The officials who accompanied him during the visit have come back with him.

At the airport M.S. Gorbachev was met by CPSU Central Committee Politburo members V.I. Vorotnikov, L.I. Zaykov, V.A. Kryuchkov, V.A. Medvedev, N.I. Ryzhkov, N.N. Slyunkov, and E.A. Shevardnadze; CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate members A.P. Biryukova, A.V. Vlasov, A.I. Lukyanov, B.K. Pugo, G.P. Razumovskiy, and D.T. Yazov; CPSU Central Committee secretaries O.D. Baklanov, A.N. Girenko, Yu.A. Manayenkov, Ye.S. Stroyev, and G.I. Usmanov; R.N. Nishanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; and I.T. Frolov, editor in chief of the PRAVDA newspaper.

Among those meeting him was P. Oinonen, the Finnish charge d'affaires in the USSR.

Gorbachev Addresses Leading Economists

PM2910185589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Oct 89 First Edition p 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "Promoting the Economic Reform. Conference at the CPSU Central Committee"—conference held on 23 October in Moscow]

[Excerpts] As reported earlier, a conference of the country's leading economists was held at the CPSU Central Committee.

Opening the conference M.S. Gorbachev said:

You have probably already noticed, comrades, that we have gathered people here who represent the whole spectrum of interests, stances, viewpoints, and schools of thought. In short, it is necessary to have an exchange of opinions since we are clearly aware of an insufficient understanding of the key questions which we are currently discussing and on which we are to adopt decisions that will determine the direction of our society's further development.

This insufficient understanding came to the fore in particular during the discussion of the draft USSR State Plan for 1990 and the efforts to define the range of measures to restore the financial health of our market. Complications arose also during the discussion of a number of draft laws at the USSR Supreme Soviet session, above all the law on ownership and regional economic accountability; and, incidentally, the entire

range of drafts relating to priority problems which must be discussed and resolved in order to expedite the economic reform.

Generally speaking, we are all equally interested today in making the most comprehensive and objective assessment of the economic and social situation which has taken shape in the country. On this, I can see, we are united. Figuratively speaking, only the epithets used will be different. On the question of the ways out of this situation opinions differ widely. True, it can be said that if a quest is under way and new problems are being tackled, different viewpoints will be expressed, producing a cacophony of opinions. If it was just a question of that, then the situation could be described as only normal and natural. However, I believe that the divergences are not just connected with the quest. They have deeper origins. Their roots clearly lie in a different understanding of the key questions, those selfsame general questions which make further progress impossible unless they are clearly understood. They include above all the question of how we see the society which we want to attain by means of perestroika. Here, in my opinion lies the key to all the problems.

I would like to focus your attention on the difference between the conceptual plan and the detailed plan, the timetable, so to speak, of revolutionary transformations. I have already spoken about this at the meeting with leaders of the mass media. The conceptual plan is the basic outline and it consists of our desire to give a new lease of life to socialism through perestroika and to develop the potential of the socialist system by overcoming man's alienation from property, from the means of production, from the political process, from power, and from culture. In my opinion this is basically a genuinely Marxist formulation of the problem with man as the focal point. How do we propose to achieve this? The answer lies in our conceptual plan—through democratization and glasnost, through reforming ownership relations and the political structure of our society, and through restoring the health of the moral sphere and of the entire spiritual life. In short by regarding man as the goal rather than the means.

This is the conceptual plan which has inspired us all these years and on the basis of which we are elaborating the specific paths through the complex transitional period during which there clearly will be many different stages.

Naturally, a long distance separates the conceptual plan from the attainment of the set aims, from the realization of a qualitatively new society. It is a long distance which must be travelled. Deluding ourselves and others with illusory quick solutions is simply ridiculous and unscientific.

But there are also other questions whose solution brooks no delay. They include above all the situation which has taken shape in the consumer market and the finances.

This is precisely what has to be resolved as swiftly as possible so that people can taste the real fruits of perestroika.

In other words, we are not putting the question like this: Once there is a conceptual plan, all that remains to be done is to sit back and watch. No. It is necessary promptly and deeply to analyze and accumulate our knowledge in order to be able to develop the process of the socialist renewal of society. The lessons of history have taught us that life cannot be forced into a "Procrustean bed" of dogmatic schemes. This is not the right path. We are against subjectivism and leftism. You scientists are well aware where all that has led in the past. What we need is a reliable combination of politics, science, and practice. In my opinion, such a mixture is already being obtained, probably for the first time in the history of socialism. Possibly this is the very combination which, generally speaking, despite all difficulties, will save us from doom, and help us to find the correct answers to the questions facing us. We must conduct perestroika on the basis of the adopted conceptual plan, proceeding from the realities of our society.

We want to find the answers above all in real life. This is what we are seeking when we are constantly consulting the working people and our intelligentsia, not only the scientific intelligentsia but also the creative intelligentsia, and, in general, society as a whole. The work which we have begun is very, very complex and it calls for great efforts on the part of all of us. We view everything—the impulses of our time, global problems, and the experience gathered by other systems—guided by the Leninist approach and the Leninist understanding, which were not followed very much in the past. But we also follow our own road, proceeding from our realities.

Can we really throw away the 72 years during which, despite all the mistakes and deformations with which we are familiar, we have travelled a tremendous historical path. This applies both to the economy and people's mentality which have taken shape over these years, to the entire social sphere in which we have been operating for decades, and to the habits which have become part of people's lives. This is what makes up our society today. And no science which takes itself seriously can, having elaborated an idea or a scheme, even a very good and most humane one, impose it on society without taking account of its realities. Otherwise, I think it is no longer a question of science, but once again utopia, once again pseudoscience. This kind of general, pseudorevolutionary proposals are, to say the least, not serious, they are destructive. They cannot be relied on either in politics or in practical work.

I would like to emphasize once again that we must view our outline plan in the light of the realities of our society. A few days ago I read in an article: Let us return to 1917-1920 period, let us start from the beginning. What was meant was not the beginning made by Lenin and the Bolsheviks, but February 1917. This is the sort of beginning that is being suggested to us. But what kind of

progress is this if we have to go back and start from "square one" as some people are suggesting. Essentially what is being proposed is the same as when we are told that it is allegedly necessary to place the development of the country on a social democratic footing.

And finally, there is yet another viewpoint: We have worked for almost 5 years in conditions of perestroika and we can see that mechanisms and methods which have nothing in common with our society are being foisted on it as a consequence of perestroika allegedly for the purpose of society's self-realization. This leads to the conclusion that we should be thinking about improving the administrative-command system rather than dismantling it.

And most important, comrades, society is being confronted with all this, and that sometimes introduces not a little confusion in people's minds. Any pseudorevolutionary phrase can act as a fuse here and make society veer to the right, or the left with all the ensuing consequences. It seems that any of the extreme solutions would be easier. But moving ahead consistently, step by step, implementing this most difficult of tasks, really mastering new forms of societal life, and consciously overcoming old stereotypes of thinking is, of course, much more difficult. It is very important for us now when we are about to embark on the stage of deep, truly revolutionary changes which affect the very foundations of our society—the base as well as the superstructure and the spiritual sphere—to clarify all these questions.

One can now very frequently hear the leadership being reproached for the fact that it is irresolute and that it is the co-ordinator or originator of half-measures. But irresolute with respect to what? All the same let us find out about what benchmark is being talked about. After all at the same time other people are, among other things, leveling accusations that all the processes are being forced along artificially, that the people is not having time to comprehend them, and that therefore everything is being artificially imposed upon the people. It is said that even scientists themselves cannot grasp things here and are frequently issuing mutually exclusive recommendations. How then is the ordinary man to get his bearings amid all this multiplicity of voices? Therefore, comrades, it is time to reflect, to ponder, and to compare and coordinate the various positions and approaches. This is now vitally necessary for us.

On the whole we have, I believe, made the correct choice and we must proceed along that road. Neither to turn back, nor even to stop in our tracks is possible. Many years have been lost as it is. Let us be frank. There are comrades sitting in this hall today who back in the early seventies had participated in the preparation of a Central Committee plenum on questions of the scientific and technical revolution. Essentially the rationale of the plenum was the adaptation of the socialist system to the scientific and technical revolution. But everything that was prepared at that time was consigned to the archives. And this was done on the eve of the world oil

crisis when the most profound structural restructuring and adaptation of capitalism to the new conditions was beginning. Capitalism, smashing people's destinies, threw millions out of work onto the street and restructured itself. But we postponed that plenum, burying its ideas, and retarded the process of rational changes which had come to a head in all the socialist countries. As a result we lost 15 years at the very least.

We need to proceed more confidently along the new road if we are thinking in general about the destiny of our people, of socialism, and of the role of our state. But we need to proceed deeply convinced that in the most important things we are acting correctly. Of course, difficulties cannot be avoided—there are no such things as ideal solutions. Our complex society is overloaded with problems and it is hardly possible to expect everything to go smoothly. Such presumptions are not for people connected with science and politics. And although current affairs journalism has now, perhaps, captured the minds of everyone—politicians, scientists, and workers—it is by no means populism that is the chief thing these days, but scientific competence, and a constructive approach when analyzing all aspects of social life.

And so we must gain an understanding of the key issues. The main thing is: toward what kind of society are we proceeding? Are we advocating a federation or something else? In what does the new role of the CPSU consist? The same applies to all the factors. If there are no true points of reference, there will be interminable arguments and nothing else. We should merely lose time. The cause of revolutionary perestroika would suffer.

Dear comrades, I would like to ask you to be frank. After all, our conversation is for the sake of a cause on which the country's fate depends. Ultimately it is possible to implement any measures but it is necessary to know what we want and how to proceed toward what we are striving for. [passage omitted comprising remarks by other participants of meeting]

At the conclusion of the meeting, M.S. Gorbachev said:

Comrades, I and the people present here today wish to continue this conversation. Many have not been able to speak, but we have a very great interest in that they should be able to. I think that our conversation ought to be continued. I ask my comrades to think over what has already been said, and to get a better understanding of the situation.

Today, as never before, we must prize our time. Many comrades spoke about this. And I would ask V.A. Medvedev, N.N. Slyunkov, and L.I. Abalkin to give thought right now to how to give assistance, though scientific consultations and by expert scientific examination, to the work of committees and commissions on the key problems which are now being examined in the Supreme Soviet. Because I can already see much that is important and interesting that must be immediately introduced, or at least discussed at the session. This

particularly applies to questions of ownership, problems of the development of the market, and certain other problems.

We must come to the Congress of People's Deputies with a government report on measures to improve the economy, finances and the market, and clearly expound views on the 13th 5-Year Plan. While resolving current issues, we are at the same time obliged to prepare an economic program for the next 5-year plan period which must be thought out in depth and profoundly worked out. Therefore I would ask you, comrades, to form groups of scientists who would be brought into this important work. A big reserve of "scientific reliability" must be created right now for the measures being worked out. We are, after all, making momentous decisions which will determine the development of our economy for many years to come. And so it is very important now, when this groundwork is being created, that we should give society laws which have been comprehensively thought out. That is the first point.

Second. You could also think about this. Measures are also being worked out in the government which can be categorized as urgent: the improvement of finances and of the market, and the deepening of reform. And here too the help of scientists would be very apposite.

It would be useful, comrades, if this topic were to be taken further and concretized at our next meeting. We really cannot now study many problems thoroughly if we do not remove the acuteness of the specific economic situation, for it has acquired such a nature today that it is having an adverse effect on the social mood in society. This, naturally, is hampering the political process and the normal course of working out and making decisions. And this is all very serious.

Therefore, I would ask you once again—both those who have already spoken at our conference, and those who are yet to speak—to think about the situation that has developed. And then all this must be systematized.

I must say that we are not at all embarrassed by the fact that we are obliged to venture to take the most radical and far-reaching steps. The chief thing is that these steps should prove to be the correct ones so that the errors which occurred in the past should not be repeated.

Now, at the stage of making crucial decisions, it is important to pool all creative efforts. Major constructive steps are needed. We are open to this, absolutely open to this. And we must all pull together. All creative potential—of politicians, economists, and all specialists—must be mobilized.

In a word, I would ask you, comrades, to submit your considerations on this score to the party Central Committee. Thoughts are needed which will make politics and practical work fecund.

And we shall continue our conversation for this.

Shevardnadze Returns From Warsaw Pact Meeting
*LD2710154789 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT
27 Oct 89*

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet foreign minister, returned to Moscow today.

He was in Poland on a working visit and took part in the work of a regular meeting of the committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation.

Baklanov Returns From Prague 27 Oct
*LD2710174289 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT
27 Oct 89*

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—Oleg Baklanov, secretary of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, returned to Moscow from Prague today after completing a working visit to Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Communist Party's Central Committee.

26 Oct RSFSR Supreme Soviet Proceedings
*PM2710154989 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 27 Oct 89 First Edition p 1*

[Unattributed "Information Report on Sitzings of Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet. Eleventh Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Session, 11th Convocation"—SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA headline]

[Text] On 26 October 1989 the 11th Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet session of the 11th convocation continued its work. The third sitting opened at 1000 hours in the Great Kremlin Palace.

The following took part in the sitting's work: Comrades V.I. Vorotnikov, V.A. Kryuchkov, N.N. Slyunkov, A.P. Biryukova, A.V. Vlasov, A.I. Lukyanov, Yu.A. Manayenkov, G.I. Usmanov.

Deputy V.S. Chicherov, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, chaired the sitting.

Discussion of the draft RSFSR Laws on Changes and Amendments to the RSFSR Constitution (Basic Law), and on elections of RSFSR people's deputies and local soviets of RSFSR people's deputies, continued.

The following deputies spoke in the debate on the report: V.P. Voronin (Zernogradskiy Electoral Okrug, Rostov Oblast); D.A. Volkogonov (Buguruslanskiy Electoral Okrug, Orenburg Oblast); I.Z. Metsayev (Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug, North Osetian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR]); S.N. Buldayev (Dzhidinskiy Electoral Okrug, Buryat ASSR); USSR People's Deputy A.N. Penyagin, refractory materials worker at the Chelyabinsk Electrometallurgical Combine; Deputies V.V. Chikin

(Kizlyarskiy Electoral Okrug, Dagestan ASSR), Yu.A. Yudin (Valdayskiy Electoral Okrug, Novgorod Oblast), V.I. Vasilyev (Leninskiy Electoral Okrug, Ulyanovsk Oblast), and V.V. Politov (Dzerzhinskiy Electoral Okrug, Sverdlovsk Oblast); USSR People's Deputy N.I. Travkin, student at the Moscow Higher Party School; Deputies S.L. Serokurov (Leninskiy Electoral Okrug, Murmansk Oblast), V.M. Samosudov (Tsentralnyy Electoral Okrug, Omsk Oblast), Ye.V. Yuganov (Nevelskiy Electoral Okrug, Pskov Oblast), and A.Ya. Panina (Chaykovskiy Electoral Okrug, Perm Oblast); Yu.I. Semukov, chairman of the Komi ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Deputies Yu.A. Nozhikov (Bratskiy Electoral Okrug, Irkutsk Oblast), V.I. Romanov (Sernurskiy Electoral Okrug, Mari ASSR), and V.N. Moshchenkov (Khimkinskiy Electoral Okrug, Moscow Oblast).

The fourth sitting of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet was held at 1600 hours in the Great Kremlin Palace.

The following took part in the work of the evening sitting: Comrades V.I. Vorotnikov, L.N. Zaykov, V.A. Medvedev, A.P. Biryukova, A.V. Vlasov, A.I. Lukyanov, G.P. Razumovskiy, Yu.A. Manayenkov, and G.I. Usmanov.

Deputy Ye.A. Norka, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, chaired the sitting.

The discussion of the first question on the session's agenda—on the draft RSFSR Laws on Changes and Amendments to the RSFSR Constitution (Basic Law), and on elections of RSFSR people's deputies and local soviets of RSFSR people's deputies—continued.

The following deputies spoke in the debates on the report: K.F. Filatov (Leninskiy Electoral Okrug, Karelian ASSR), B.G. Kibirev (Labinskiy Electoral Okrug, Krasnodar Kray), V.G. Aleksentseva (Buzulukskiy Electoral Okrug, Orenburg Oblast), F.F. Kuznetsov (Sverdlovskiy Electoral Okrug, Moscow City), M.V. Karamayev (Gorno-Altayskiy Electoral Okrug, Altay Kray), and N.A. Aliyev (Derbentskiy Electoral Okrug, Dagestan ASSR).

At this point the RSFSR Supreme Soviet ended its debate on the first question on the session's agenda.

The session is continuing its work.

RSFSR Supreme Soviet Concludes Work 27 Oct

Vlasov on Economic Self-Reliance

LD2710181989 Moscow TASS in English 1746 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

Beefing up economic self-reliance of the union republics is one major objective of Soviet economic reform.

Next year Belorussia and the Baltic Republics will become economically self-reliant. The Russian Federation, the largest of the fifteen union republics, will adopt cost-accounting in 1991.

Today Russian Premier Aleksandr Vlasov described the republic's preparations for that step at the session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

He said Russia's role in the USSR's economy and its multi-ethnic population make the process important and difficult.

The republic has a large part of the USSR's economic, scientific and technological potential which largely determines the shape of the entire Soviet economy.

Russia, in the division of labour within the union, accounts for 60 per cent of its gross output, 62 per cent of electric power, 92 per cent of oil, 76 per cent of timber, 50 per cent of coal and 77 per cent of gas.

Referring to problems arising on the road toward economic self-reliance, Vlasov said that manifestations of "regional egoism" and attempts to shirk responsibility towards the union are increasing.

He opposes the USSR becoming a confederation and Russia a "conglomerate of principalities." He said that the Russian Federation ought to be regarded as a vehicle of further economic and political integration.

On the problem of republican ownership of land and natural resources, Vlasov said he favoured recognising natural resources as the common heritage of the people. "The property of republics and regions can be discussed only in terms of the right of disposing of and using them," he said.

The shift to cost-accounting by all the Russian Federation is impossible without economic independence of its autonomous entities and regions now at different stages of social and economic development. A uniform approach to the problem is absolutely unacceptable, the premier of Russia said. It calls for a search for specific models.

The change over of Moscow, Tatar Autonomous Republic on the Volga and two major regions to cost-accounting from 1990 as an experiment will help to formulate the concept for switching over to new economic conditions for the entire Russian Federation. In working out the concept it is necessary to take into account the interests of the entire Soviet economy, Vlasov said.

Chides 'Regional Isolation' Trend

LD2710205189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] [Announcer] An issue of considerable importance at the session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian federation today was the progress of work to transfer

autonomous republics, oblasts, and okrugs to the principles of work to transfer autonomous republics, oblasts, and okrugs to the principles of self-government and self-financing. Aleksandr Vladimirovich Vlasov, chairman of the Russian Council of Ministers, delivered a report. He touched on various aspects; I have selected this point from his speech for this bulletin.

[Begin Vlasov recording] Concerning attempts to find justice by a path whereby oblasts and republics make mutual claims against one another for past deformations, this path is, in our opinion, a dead-end one without any prospects. In resolving questions of the transferring the Russian federation to territorial self-financing, we have to take its specific features into account in the most attentive manner, above all the circumstance that the major part of the country's economic and scientific-technical potential, which is on the whole used to accomplish all-union tasks, is concentrated in Russia. Due to objective reasons, our economy specializes in the development of Group A industries, which account for more than three-quarters of all industrial production today. Seventy-two percent of its volume is produced by enterprises subordinate to the union; that is one of the highest indices in the USSR. Such a structure of the republic's national economy predetermines, more than in other union republics, the capital-intensiveness and labor-intensiveness of production, and reduces the economy's effectiveness. For instance, the profitability of branches of heavy industry is half that of light industry, while that of the fuel and energy complex is one-third of light industry's.

And now, the expansion of self-government principles, another component in the transfer of regions to the new principles of territorial economic activity. What is involved is a broad complex of measures aimed at increasing the independence and responsibility of local soviets. They must be invested with rights and economic levers which allow them to ensure comprehensive socio-economic development of the territories subordinate to them.

One of the main points here is the transfer of enterprises and organizations subordinate to the union or republic to the control of republican and local bodies. What is meant are those enterprises whose output is mainly intended for meeting the needs of the population of the given territory. The sense of such a transfer consists in bringing management closer to the enterprises and associations, with the aim of increasing the efficiency of their work. Given this, the interests of labor collectives must be observed without fail. Without their agreement, the enterprises cannot be transferred from one subordination to another.

The development of the territorial government mechanism is an absolutely new matter and needs to be painstakingly proven. It was precisely for this reason that a decision was taken on the stage-by-stage transfer of regions in the Russian federation to the principles of self-financing and self-government.

The Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, the Sverdlovsk and Kemerovo Oblasts, and Moscow City will transfer to these principles as of 1 January 1990. Leningrad Oblast and Vologda, Vladimir, Volgograd, Kuybyshev, Moscow, Tomsk, and Chelyabinsk Oblasts have also submitted their proposals. Another 20 regions have begun preparations. Simultaneously, development work is being carried out on the concept of economic and social leadership in the republic as a whole. A search is being conducted for what is today the optimal model of government, to which the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic is to transfer from the start of the 13th 5-Year Plan period.

I have to say that gravitation toward regional isolation is, unfortunately, becoming a reality. The violation of established economic ties is having an increasingly painful effect. If republics or regions really do start along the slippery path of complete economic independence, this will inevitably lead to the disintegration of the country's national economic complex. It is not difficult to predict that such a course of events would, in turn, have a boomerang effect for each republic, kray, or oblast; and that emotional euphoria would inevitably be followed by serious sobering-up.

We resolutely oppose the transformation of our union state into a union of national states, or the transformation of the Russian federation into a patchwork quilt, a kind of conglomerate of appanage princedoms.

In contrast to the concept of autarky and regional isolation, we regard the federation not as an end in itself, but as the way toward further economic and political integration, toward an increasingly close union which augments the efforts of peoples in the struggle for social progress. [end recording]

Vorotnikov Concluding Speech

LD2810130989 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1619 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Concluding speech by V.I. Vorotnikov, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at final session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet in Moscow on 27 October—recorded]

[Text] Respected comrade deputies, allow me first of all to express my gratitude to the deputies of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet for their businesslike and animated, I would say scrupulous, discussion of the draft laws on additions and amendments to the RSFSR Constitution and the elections of People's Deputies of the RSFSR and the local soviets. The discussion was substantive and, on the whole, passed very actively and in a constructive spirit. Many interesting remarks and proposals were made which, as you were able to satisfy yourselves while listening to the report of the chairman of the Commission on Legislative Proposals, allowed the texts of the draft laws to be improved somewhat.

I would like to dwell on several issues raised in deputies' speeches. Deputy Boykov raised the question of the need to adopt an all-union act in which the complete rehabilitation of people who were subject to forced resettlement in the period of Stalinism would be addressed. In connection with this I would like to report the following: The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium recently discussed the draft of a suitable political document on this issue. It will be submitted for consideration by the USSR Supreme Soviet and will undoubtedly be adopted there.

Many speakers touched on the clauses of draft laws concerning autonomous formations. Deputies Kaufman, Bogdanov, Girgazyamov, Shtygasov, Karamayev, Semukov, Romanov, and others spoke out on this theme. USSR People's Deputy Mongo also intended to speak about this, having conveyed the text of his speech to the session's Presidium. The need to improve the status of the autonomies and the extension of their rights was stressed. An opinion was expressed on the transferral of subordination of the autonomous oblasts to bodies of the republic's state administration and so on. I will again stress that all of these are really issues which have come to a head and they must be considered as a package, taking into account the local role and situation of autonomous formations in the entire country and not only in the Russian Federation.

As you know, the appropriate positions of the CPSU Central Committee are expounded in the CPSU platform on the party's nationalities' policy in contemporary conditions adopted at the last plenum of the Central Committee. The party considers it expedient to raise the status of the various autonomous formations; such an approach should be reflected in the corresponding legislative acts of the Soviet Union. Improving the status of the autonomies is not a simple matter. National and interethnic relations—economic, social, political, intellectual, emotional, and psychological—the structure of national-territorial organizations were a long time forming, were ripening for decades, for centuries and it is understandable that they must not be changed or renewed rashly.

These issues should be approached very thoughtfully, taking into account all the circumstances and, in the first instance, the will expressed by the peoples themselves must be taken into account without fail. Special consideration and circumspection should be shown during the resolution of problems connected with the restoration of the autonomies of peoples resettled during the years of Stalinism from their previous territories.

Some speakers raised the issue of increasing the representation of the autonomous formations, including oblasts and okrugs, at the Congress of the RSFSR People's Deputies. Let us compare the indices for the representation of deputies from autonomies in the present composition of the Supreme Soviet with those which are being proposed for the Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies. Their overall number is increasing by 93 people including from the autonomies by 66 people or 71

percent. The number of voters living in the autonomous republics, in autonomous oblasts and okrugs comprises 16 percent of the overall number in the Russian Federation and the representation of deputies from these autonomies is 22 percent. Each autonomous formation is receiving an addition: For example, the Bashkir ASSR and Tatar ASSR and Dagestan and the Buryat ASSR, where there will be 10 instead of 7 deputies; Kalmyk ASSR will have 6 instead of 2; Komi ASSR will have 11 instead of 8; Mari ASSR 8 instead of 5; Chuvash ASSR 12 instead of 9; and so on.

These figures increase correspondingly in the autonomous oblasts: in Adygey from three to five, Gorno-Altaysk oblast from one to three, in the Jewish Oblast from two to four, in Khakass from four to five, in Karachayevo-Cherkessk from three to four.

Almost all autonomous okrugs are having their representation increased. The Taymyr, Evenki, Ust-Ord, Aga Buryat, and Ust-Orda Buryat and the Chukchi autonomous okrugs had one representative each and they will have two representatives each. The representation of the Yamal-Nenets okrug is going up from two to four; that of Khanty-Mansi is going up from six to eight. The Nenets and Koryak okrugs did not have their own deputies at all in the current Supreme Soviet, now they have been given the opportunity of having two deputies each. Thus, in our view, there have been no violations here, and moreover a considerably greater representation of all the autonomous formations has been secured.

Another question in this connection: Why are there fewer national-territorial okrugs than territorial ones? The reason is that only 16 percent of our voters, as I have said, live in the autonomous territories, and if we formed, even throughout the republic, as many national-territorial okrugs as territorial—say 500 of each—then we would get a sharp reduction of the proportion of people's deputies from the autonomous regions in the body of deputies.

In the report I have already told you in detail what considerations have been taken into account in drawing up the proposals on the numerical composition of the bicameral Supreme Soviet. Now it is proposed to form each of the chambers from 126 members. If we were to accept the proposal of certain deputies to increase the representation of each national okrug or oblast in the Soviet of Nationalities to three or four members, this would naturally require a proportional increase in the representation of the other territories as well—of the krais and oblasts. And that would mean at least doubling the size of the chambers, and therefore also of the congress and of the Soviet of the Republic. In other words, we would have a cumbersome Supreme Soviet which would be ill-adapted to continuous work and would have more than 500 members, while the size of the Congress of the People's Deputies would increase to 2,000 members. Would this be sensible? Surely not.

On the other hand, if we examine the possibility of not convening the congress, but only convening the Supreme Soviet, then in that case representation of the voters by their deputies in the Supreme Soviet would be reduced at best by 200-250 percent or by 300 percent. And thus one deputy—especially in the territorial okrugs—would be elected to represent 400,000-500,000 voters. Not one of the republics has such a large representation. The most any of them has is 80,000 voters electing one deputy, in the Ukraine; while the other republics have one deputy representing 40,000, 30,000, 20,000, 10,000, or even 4,000 deputies [as heard]. And so the norm that certain comrades have spoken of, in order to renounce the congress, is in no way legitimate. We, in our vast and ethnically mixed republic, indisputably need the congress so that we may secure normal representation of all categories and all social groups of the population.

I would also like to say a few words on the question of the election of the chairmen of soviets at various levels. I wish to stress again that the proposal to elect them by direct ballot is in contradiction with the policy of democratizing our political system. Most speakers have supported the proposed bills. I would like to call upon those who have advocated at the session the thesis about direct balloting to think over this question again.

Deputies Fomin, Dyudakova, and others spoke about the need to refine the structure of the local organs of power and to strengthen their material base. This issue needs to be tackled urgently. And its radical solution must be brought about by the USSR law on general principles of local self-management and the local economy, which, as you know, is being submitted by the USSR Supreme Soviet to nationwide discussion. I wholly support the proposal of Comrade Dyudakova about the need to speedily compose and send to localities the commentaries on the laws adopted. I share the proposal of Comrade Bogdanov on the need for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to assist the setting up of the association of small peoples.

Discussing the radical issues of the state life of the RSFSR, some deputies touched on subjects which are, formally speaking, outside the agenda. This is quite natural. However, speaking about the new structure, about the procedure for forming Soviet bodies, one should pay attention to their content, to the content of their activity. The deputies expressed concern with the slowing down of the pace in the development of the republic's national economy, difficulties in the development of individual territories and sectors of the national economy. They noted an unsatisfactory situation in the consumer goods supply to a number of regions, shortcomings in the sphere of tackling the housing problem, underestimation of work in environmental protection and so on. This was said by deputies Kaufman, Merzayamov, Serokvov, and others. I think that it is necessary to instruct the RSFSR Council of Ministers to consider the remarks and proposals of the deputies on specific questions concerning the socioeconomic development of the republic and its individual territories and

to take effective measures for each remark and proposal that has been substantiated.

I would also like to remind the deputies that we still have to discuss at the session of the Supreme Soviet, probably during the last 10 days of November, the question of the state plan and the budget for the development of our republic for 1990, where we will be able to discuss these problems in greater detail.

Comrades, the present session of the Supreme Soviet must adopt laws which will determine the content of the entire work for improving the state life of the RSFSR.

They are directed toward society's further democratization. They will stimulate the masses' political activity and promote the advancement of perestroika. I would like to express confidence that you will support the laws and they will meet with the approval of the citizens of the republic.

Of course, the draft laws we are examining are a necessary base for improving the work of the Soviets. But it goes without saying that we also need other laws to widen their rights and powers. This is true of fundamental laws such as those dealing with property, leasehold, and land use. Much has been said here, and justly, about a law on the general principles of local self-management and local economy. Another law that will serve to improve the work of the Soviets is that on the general principles of restructuring the management of the economy and social sphere in the union republics on the basis of self-management and self-financing. It will open the way to strengthening their sovereignty and expanding their economic independence.

At the same time, movement in this direction means enhancing the republics' responsibility for fulfilling their general obligations to the whole country. It is necessary to organize discussion of these draft laws in the Russian Federation in such a way that it will influence the greatest...[Vorotnikov changes thought] make it possible to reflect most fully the rich experience of our republic and the interests of the various territories and formations.

The present session can be seen as an important preparatory stage in the campaign to elect people's deputies of the RSFSR and the local soviets. Undoubtedly, we all have an interest in ensuring that the deputies who are elected are worthy to bear the title of those chosen by the people, capable of serving the people selflessly and taking care of the people's interests. The preparation of the elections will require serious, painstaking, and thoughtful work. Henceforth, the Soviets must view every one of their decisions, every action, in light of the forthcoming elections. That means that their entire activity must now be especially vigorous, purposeful, consistent. Another important feature of our preelection work is that it is directed toward increasing the cohesion of society and consolidating all healthy forces. Today one can hear irresponsible appeals aimed at weakening our common state and the friendship of the Soviet

peoples. Attempts are being made to distort the meaning of the party's creative efforts and to undermine faith in the democratization of the Soviet system. That is why the entire election campaign should be carried out in such a way as to facilitate greater unity of all social and national groups, strengthening friendship and cooperation among all the republics of the Soviet Union.

Finally, good preparation for the elections requires persistent efforts to improve the entire work of the Soviets; it requires constant concern for resolving the vitally important problems of the population. Actions speak better and louder than any words. What is needed is more deeds: tangible, timely, effective deeds. Then the elections will yield precisely the results that are essential for our republic's successful development, its democratization, and for perestroika to be victorious.

Thank you for your attention.

Trushin Address

LD2910120689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1600 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Remarks by Vasilii Trushin, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) internal affairs minister-designate, at the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session in Moscow on 27 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades, I have prepared a short report, understanding that today there would be confirmation. I would like, if you permit, to bring it to your attention, and I think that it may remove many questions which the deputies have. May I present the report?

Esteemed comrade deputies, I would like to briefly inform the Supreme Soviet about the state of public order, about the results of the struggle with crime, and about those volumes in various directions of the activity of the internal affairs bodies which will be concentrated in the Russian Federation's Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The results for the past 9 months indicate that the rate of growth of crime is not being reduced and remains, as previously, high. For all types of crime, the increment was 34 percent, and for grave crimes 45.2 percent. That is somewhat higher than for the Soviet Union as a whole. Overall, 51.4 percent of the population of the Soviet Union lives on the territory of the republic, and at the same time almost two-thirds of the crimes registered in the country occur in the RSFSR. Almost 57 percent of the staff of the internal affairs bodies of the country work in Russian city and rayon bodies, and almost three-quarters of all corrective labor establishments are located there, in which over 70 percent of convicts are contained. Such a situation has led to the fact that the concentration of corrective establishments is extremely high in a whole series of autonomous republics, krais, and oblasts. If one considers the growing difficulties of the communal and labor structure, and the absence of a well-developed practice of social adaptation and rehabilitation of those who are released, then the need becomes

clear for a more well-considered approach to the organization of the penitentiary system. One imagines that this problem should occupy a particular place in the all-state program of crime prevention which is being drafted now, and in the similar program of our republic, which one should also get down to elaborating. [passage omitted]

Nevertheless, our needs in equipment and personnel are far from being covered. Therefore, today it is extremely important to develop the initiative for material and financial support of the Internal Affairs Ministry bodies from local soviets and from work collectives, and also for the creation of workers' detachments assisting the militia. Today workers' detachments are acting in 50 autonomous republics, krais, and oblasts of the Russian Federation. Enterprises in Voronezh, Kemerovo, Vladimir, Kirov, Kuybyshev, and a number of other cities have allocated resources either for increasing the number of inspectors on the beat or engaged in patrols or watches, or for increasing the salary of individual staff categories. The collectives of associations and enterprises have transferred more than R12 million, part of it in hard currency, for additional acquisition of equipment. [passage omitted]

The contemporary state of practice of applying the law, despite some changes in it, does not correspond to the situation. This affects in a particularly telling way the struggle against crime in the sphere of the economy. Deputy Feliks Feodosiyevich Kuznetsov, who spoke at yesterday's session, spoke in an agitated manner about the danger of the shadow economy which is destroying the foundation of our society. And it is necessary to say, comrades, that this concern is not unfounded. The loss merely due to insufficient deliveries, thefts, and corruption has grown in the republic since 1985 by almost one-third, and amounted last year to almost R2,500 million. Even, given a very high level or rate of crime in the sphere of the economy, over 150,000 such crimes are registered annually in Russia. Theft and bribery have become extremely widespread in industry, agriculture, and trade, and speculation is on the increase.

At the same time, the number of uncovered crimes has declined of late, and this is not because there are now less of them. The attitude to legal evaluation of what has been committed has changed, and requirements for evidence have grown. As a result, the standards of criminal law about responsibility for overstatement and distortion of accounts have effectively ceased to work, and the application of the criminal law against bribe-takers and embezzlers has declined. We see the reason for such a phenomenon, alongside insufficient professionalism and in the outmoded practice of use of evidence. The USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs has made proposals to the Union about including materials received as a result of using technical systems—audio and video recordings and photography—in the list of accepted evidence in criminal cases, and also about increasing the liability for economic crimes committed by organized groups. It is necessary also to use republican possibilities to the maximum in order to get rid of

other blank spots in legislation. The adoption by the Republic's Supreme Soviet of the decree about increasing liability for extortion has enabled, for example, the struggle against this dangerous type of crime to be significantly intensified.

But there is a definite need for further refinement of the laws which are directed against organized crime, including corruption, speculation, and abuse of the sphere of trade and of cooperatives. The need for major reforms in criminal laws and in criminal case laws is becoming more and more evident. Fulfillment of the tasks in the struggle against crime is made more difficult by the diversion of considerable forces for the upkeep of public order, when various mass actions are held which are organized, as a rule, by informal associations. This year, there have already been about 1,500 meetings, gatherings, and demonstrations in the republic, in which over 3 million people took part.

No actions based on nationalist grounds have been recorded in the Russian Federation. Nor have there been serious conflicts on an interethnic basis. At the same time, such processes undoubtedly require constant close attention.

The September plenum of the party Central Committee spoke out clearly and unambiguously in favor of such problems being resolved by political methods. However, there needs to be a barrier, including via political means, against manifestations of nationalism and attempts to close off one's borders and solve one's problems at the expense of others. The Internal Affairs bodies will do everything that lies within their power to cut short infringements of the law and any illegal acts, whatever the motives for these might be. Effective work by the Internal Affairs bodies depends to a considerable extent on the consideration of specific local factors. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Soviet Union has already taken definite steps toward decentralization of the administrative functions. Ministers and the heads of Internal Affairs administrations have been invested with additional rights in the resolution of structural and personnel issues and in the application of measures for material incentives of workers. This process will continue.

At the same time, however, it presupposes development of the initiative of local leaders and an increase in their responsibility for strengthening law and order.

Of course, comrades, what I have said is not an exhaustive list of the problems in the Internal Affairs bodies' activity. A great many unresolved issues remain; there are, however, already some positive shifts.

Perhaps the most important point is the fact that the workers in the Internal Affairs Ministry bodies have begun to act more resolutely and boldly, and that they are gradually ridding themselves of the complex of safe options, passivity and fear which has been acquired in recent years. Comprehension of the militia's role is

increasingly establishing itself in society, and the attitude to its needs and problems is changing. All this creates the preconditions for more effective fulfillment of the tasks entrusted to the Internal Affairs bodies, the tasks of maintaining public order and combatting crime.

It is toward the achievement of this goal that the activity of the republican ministry of the Internal Affairs bodies will be oriented. Thank you for your attention. [passage omitted]

The question is about the reasons why the present complex situation on the railways has been created; could these reasons include some that are connected with, say, crimes or with organized sabotage?

Comrades, I would like to say that in my view, and in the opinion of workers in the Ministry of Railways with whom we are naturally working closely, the main reason for the situation which has developed lies in the hold-ups and disruptions in the work of railway transport, which took place as a result of the events in the country's mining areas, events of which you are aware; and as a result of the blockade which was...[changes thought in response to audience noise]...I am explaining, answering the question which a deputy has asked me—as a result of the blockade which was set up, as you know, by certain extremists from the Popular Front of Azerbaijan to blockade Armenia; all this, comrades, has really led to very grave disruptions. If one is to speak about some kind of, so to speak, organized acts to counter the unloading of railcars, we have recorded nothing of this kind, although we do know that this kind of rumor is being spread. We have naturally checked all these rumors thoroughly, and so far we do not have a single proven fact on this count. [passage omitted]

As a rule, when crimes involving firearms are committed, it is unregistered weapons that are used. Unfortunately, to a certain extent this is a consequence of shortcomings first of all, in our work within the permit system; and secondly, in a number of cases it is a consequence of what I would call the inadequate safe-keeping of weapons, including those with rifled barrels, in bodies and subunits which possess such weapons.

[Following Trushin's remarks the chairman of the session puts Trushin's appointment as RSFSR internal affairs minister to the vote: the RSFSR Supreme Soviet confirms Trushin's appointment by a show of hands; six deputies vote against, two abstain]

Trushin Appointed Minister

LD2710202189 Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The session of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet ended in the Kremlin today.

The deputies adopted laws on the changes of the Constitution and on elections. Under these laws the electoral system is restructured on a democratic basis, and the structure of government bodies of the biggest of the 15 union republics forming the USSR is largely renewed.

The legislative acts that have been passed widen the competence of republican government bodies and enhance independence of local soviets.

The elections of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation and local soviets were appointed for March 4, 1990, Sunday.

The deputies heard a report by head of Russia's government Aleksandr Vlasov about the preparation for the republic's transition to cost-accounting as of 1991.

He noted that Russia's role in the country's national economy and the multi-ethnic composition of its population make this process complex and very responsible.

In this connection the head of Russia's government pointed to the need for the quest of specific models taking into account the level of social and economic development of various regions of the republic.

The transition of Moscow, of Tataria, an autonomous republic in the Volga reaches, and of two large regions to cost-accounting as an experiment in 1990 will help develop a concept for the transition of the entire Russian Federation to new principles of economic management.

The interests of the integral economic complex of the whole country are being taken into consideration in drawing up this concept, Vlasov said.

The session also endorsed decrees of the Presidium of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet. They include a decree about forming Russia's Interior Ministry, which is in keeping with the policy of creating state, public and scientific bodies of Russia which, in contrast to other republics, it does not have.

Vasiliy Trushin, 55, who was USSR first deputy interior minister, has been appointed Russia's interior minister.

Soviet Elections Set for 4 Mar

*LD2710135189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1200 GMT 27 Oct 89*

[Text] At the session of the morning session of the Russian parliament the deputies were acquainted with the summarizing document concerning the draft law of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] on changes and additions to the republican constitution. After this Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov, chairman RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delivered the closing speech on this question. Then the deputies carried out a discussion and voted article by article and as a result passed the law on additions and changes to the RSFSR Constitution. Six hundred and seventy-seven deputies voted in favor, 13 were opposed, and 14 abstained.

No less interesting were the discussions and arguments on the draft law on elections of peoples deputies of the republic and peoples deputies of local soviets of the RSFSR. Apparently, these questions were worked out carefully as the deputies allocated less time to them and passed both laws unanimously.

The RSFSR parliamentarians adopted a decision to hold elections of peoples deputies of the RSFSR and local soviets of the republic on 4 March and elected a central electoral commission.

2-Hour Strike Planned for 1 Nov in Vorkuta

*LD2910162389 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT
29 Oct 89*

[Text] Vorkuta (European Russia's North) October 29 TASS—Losses from the continued strike by the Vorkutinskaya colliery, the biggest in the Pechora coal basin, are snow-balling.

The stoppage resulted in the fact that the Vorkutinskaya amalgamation cannot now meet its daily quotas for coal production and shipment. Soviet customers do not receive daily some 200 wagons of Vorkuta coal.

To all appearances, the Vorkutinskaya amalgamation will fail to fulfil the October plan. If the Vorkutinskaya colliery does not resume work in the remaining days, Vorkuta miners will produce 100,000-odd tonnes of coal less than planned for October. The shortage is now 75,000 tonnes.

Vorkuta railwaymen also suffer heavy losses from the strike. They lost in wages. Work and rest schedules of locomotive teams are disrupted, and this has a negative effect on safety of railway traffic.

Housing construction plans for the Vorkuta section of the Northern railway are being frustrated due to lack of funds. The city newspaper ZAPOLYARIE published an address from railwaymen to miners appealing to their wisdom to prevent complete economic dislocation in Vorkuta as well as a paralysis at enterprises consuming Vorkuta coal.

A city rally of representatives from enterprises and Vorkuta residents took place today. It discussed progress in implementing a decision of the USSR Council of Ministers of August 3, 1989. Miners expressed dissatisfaction with how the decision is being implemented.

V. Kopasov, member of the city strike committee, said that miners plan to go on a two-hour strike in support of the Vorkutinskaya colliery on November 1.

Vorkuta Strike Situation Still Tense

*LD2810190289 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1730 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Text] Vorkuta (Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR], northern Russia) 28 Oct (TASS)—A

TASS correspondent reports: The collective of the "Vorgashorskaya" mine, one of the major ones in the Pechora coal basin, has been continuing to strike since 25 October. All the remaining Vorkuta mines, which have ended their strike, are unable to make up for the volume of output lost as a result of the inactivity of the "Vorgashorskaya" pit.

Over the past 24 hours, the plan for the extraction and delivery of coal throughout the "Vorkutaugol" association as a whole has been half fulfilled. According to up-to-the-minute reports from the association's dispatch office, the shortfall since the beginning of October amounts to 55,000 tonnes for extraction, and 3,000 tonnes for delivery. The shortfall is growing rapidly. For example, in each 24-hour period they are sending off 15,000 tonnes of coal less than provided for under the schedule.

Consumers are sounding the alarm. Thus, the collective of the Cherepovets metallurgical combine sent an urgent telegram earnestly asking the miners of the polar city to desist from strike action and to insure planned deliveries of all categories of coal. The telegram says: The strike in July and August dealt a severe blow to the work of the coking and blast furnaces. Owing to the enforced violation of technological requirements and the lack of coal of the necessary grades, up to 10 percent of the coking ovens went out of operation and many of them cannot be restored. The combine has not fulfilled its plan on a number of very important points, and this has created tension in the provision of metal for the basic industries of the national economy.

On Friday the Komi ASSR supreme court considered an action by the "Vorkutaugol" association administration against the city strike committee and the strike committees of the "Vorgashorskaya," "Komsomolskaya," and "Ayach-Yaga" pits. No action was initiated against the association's remaining six mines which have been on strike. The court decision says that the labor collectives of the three mines and the strike committees have crudely violated the law the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted on 9 October 1989 "On the procedure for settling collective labor disputes (conflicts)." Reconciliation commissions and labor arbitration procedures were not set up. The decision to hold the strike was made by fewer than two-thirds of the members of the collectives of the mines. There are other infringements, too.

The situation in Vorkuta remains tense.

Court Declares Strike Illegal

*LD2710175489 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1640 GMT 27 Oct 89*

[Text] Vorkuta, 27 Oct. (TASS)—Only one pit in the Vorkutaugol Association in the Komi Autonomous Republic failed to obey the decision of the city-wide conference of strike committees and representatives of the coal production enterprises that the work of all striking miners' collectives should be resumed today. But

this was one of the major pits in the Pechora coal basin, the "Vorgashorskaya," which accounts for approximately one quarter of all the fuel extracted by the association. The collective of this pit is continuing its strike. The remaining participants in the 24-hour warning strike resumed work last night.

The warning strike was brought about by the Vorkuta miners' dissatisfaction with the practical implementation of the decision of the USSR Council of Ministers of 3 August 1989 "concerning measures to ensure fulfillment of joint decisions adopted by the government commissions with the involvement of the AUCCTU and the strike committees of the working people of the coal regions of the country;" and also on account of the poor way in which they have been informed about the progress of fulfillment of the miners' demands. The miners of the "Vorgashorskaya" pit, in continuing to strike, intend to achieve complete implementation of the decision of the government and first and foremost of those points within it for which the timescales for fulfillment have already expired. They are also demanding that individuals guilty of holding up fulfillment of the decision and of failing to provide the miners with truthful information at the proper time be brought to account.

Losses are growing. As a result of the strike more than 50,000 tonnes of coal, including a considerable quantity of coking coal, have failed to be brought to the surface. About 15,000 tonnes of fuel have not been dispatched to consumers. The "Vorkutaugol" association is receiving anxious telegrams, asking the miners to refrain from striking. Thus the labour collective of the Kaliningrad coke and gas works warns that the miners' strike will lead to the stoppage of their enterprise.

According to a statement by the administration of the Vorkuta mines the Supreme Court of the Komi ASSR today declared the strike at these enterprises to be illegal.

Miners Appeal Verdict

*LD2810130589 Hamburg DPA in German 1029 GMT
28 Oct 89*

[Excerpts] Moscow (DPA)—The miners in Vorkuta have appealed against a court ruling declaring their 24-hour warning strike illegal. "We do not accept the court's verdict," a spokesman for the combined strike committee told DPA by telephone today from Vorkuta. Around 4,000 miners at the largest mine in the region are still on strike. [passage omitted]

"The law only deals with disagreements between workers and management," the spokesman said, "There is no mention of differences of opinion with the government." At one time 9 of the 13 mines in Vorkuta in the Arctic Circle were on strike. It was then decided to declare the political warning strike over after 24 hours.

"Around 4,000 workers at the Vorgashorskaya mine are carrying on the strike," the spokesman confirmed. The

miners at Vorkuta's largest mine have not agreed with the decision by the conference of the combined strike committees to end the strike. "The Vorgoshorskaya miners demand the punishment of members of the government who have not kept their promises," the spokesman said.

The fulfillment of the government's economic promises to the strikers this summer was cited as the main aim of their strike. After 5 years the miners receive a so-called northern supplement, which at around 500 rubles can be more than double the minimum wage. "Whoever changes mines before the expiry of 5 years in Vorkuta loses his claim to the supplement, whoever leaves Vorkuta gets nothing," the spokesman criticized.

After the strikes in July the government promised a change in the rules on supplements in accordance with the miners' demands, however the mine management is circumventing them. According to the spokesman for the strike committee, British miners have shown solidarity with their Soviet colleagues' strike and each transferred a day's pay to a special account in Vorkuta. "However, we never got the money."

Kemerovo Obkom Criticizes Kuzbass Strike

*LD2810092189 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0826 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Text] Kemerovo, 28 Oct (TASS)—The strike by Kuzbass miners on 23 October was conducted in violation of the 3 October decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet concerning the uninterrupted functioning of the base industries of the national economy. The Kemerovo Oblast CPSU Committee [obkom] bureau came to this conclusion. The bureau decided that the organizers of the strike showed disrespect for the higher body of people's power.

The obkom bureau considers strikes are not a method for resolving problems. At the same time, the concern of labor collectives about the slow transfer of enterprises to full economic and legal independence is shared.

The call for strike action in today's conditions is evaluated by the bureau as adventurism and a provocation undermining the authority of the workers' movement. It condemns the attempts of individuals to satisfy their ambitions by strong arm tactics, ultimatums, and interference in the activities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, governments, local soviet and trade union bodies, and councils of labor collectives.

The obkom bureau supports the previously adopted appeal from engineering and technical workers of a number of shafts and agricultural workers of the oblast to inhabitants of the towns and workers' committees of the Kuzbass about the need to strengthen discipline and order and to unify forces to increase the effectiveness of industrial and agricultural production and the active resolution of social problems.

Shchadov Addresses Donetsk Miners on Demands

*PM2710110189 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
27 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 2*

[Own correspondent Nikolay Lisovenko report under the rubric "Direct Line": "How the Miners' Demands Are Being Met"]

[Text] Donetsk—A meeting took place on 25 October in the sessions hall of the oblast soviet executive committee [oblispolkom] between M.I. Shchadov, USSR minister of the coal industry, and the mining community of Donetsk Oblast. In a 90-minute speech, the minister informed those present of how the terms of the agreements reached between the miners on strike in July and the government commission are being met.

The size of pensions, the number of days of paid leave, the granting of economic independence to enterprises, and the raising of wholesale prices for coal by 150 percent—all these and other topical issues were touched on in the report by M.I. Shchadov and in the speeches by representatives of party, soviet, and trade union workers, members of labor collectives, and members of strike committees. Those present learned with satisfaction that the price of coal will be differentiated in each of the 16 regions. The coal sale system is to be transferred into the hands of the Ministry of the Coal Industry, which is both profitable and fair. The miners will be able to sell 33 million tonnes of fuel per year to foreign consumers and use the foreign currency earned in this way for their own needs.

Important changes will soon be taking place in the sector's management structure and, what is more, these changes will affect all levels, from the ministry to the mining sector. The old forms will be abolished and they will be replaced by concerns, associations, and so forth.

A pointed discussion developed on the subject of the housing problem: Under the accord reached with the government commission, a miner taking up work in the mine must receive an apartment with all amenities within 6 years. But the capacities of construction organizations currently fall 25 percent short of target. This is giving rise to concern among miners, and the oblispolkom, Ministry of the Coal Industry, and "Donetsk-shakhtostroy" Combine must accelerate the pace of building a housing construction combine and other subdivisions of the construction industry.

As before, mines' material and technical supply is a source of much criticism. This year the shortfall in the supply of supports has already reached 500,000 cubic meters. Miners spoke indignantly of how the shortage of spare parts has given rise to speculation at warehouses.

The miners' detailed discussion lasted 4 hours. There was no talk of going on strike. What they did talk about was how to work better.

Today M.I. Shchadov will meet with miners in Voroshilovgrad Oblast.

Comments on Promise to Miners

LD2710194489 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1800 GMT 26 Oct 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by correspondent G. Konaurov on the situation at the Donbass mines]

[Text] The daily level of coal extraction in the country's mines is higher than in past months. It is growing daily. But the shortfall in supplies of fuel to customers and of raw material for the metallurgical industry still remains very high. At a number of mines labor discipline is low. There has been increased absenteeism. The production capacities of the mines which are 70 percent exhausted are simply incapable of breaking into a sprint. [video shows a mine at work]

The promise made to the striking miners to improve the supply of spare parts, materials, timber, and new equipment has not been kept. On the contrary, the shortage has doubled and tripled. In order to obtain a spare part from the stores mining teams are sometimes obliged to pay cash. At many mines there is still no common off-day. The plan has been set too high. The rights of the councils of labor collectives to establish privileges and bonuses to leading production workers and to veterans remain only on paper because many mines are not profitable and are unable to set up material incentive funds.

But what does the ministry think about this?

[Shchadov, USSR minister of the coal industry] I must say straight out today that the demands that were agreed between the government commissions and the strike committees and which were entered into decision 608 of 3 August signed by Comrade Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, are being fulfilled to the extent and to the dates which were planned. On the matter of pensions, we know clearly that the draft law is in the USSR Supreme Soviet and will be examined at the present session. The issue of leave has been prepared by the government; it will be examined by the USSR Council of Ministers in the near future and will then be sent to the USSR Supreme Soviet for further consideration.

[Kondaurov] In essence, only one mine in the Donbass has gone over to financial autonomy. That is the Zhdanovskaya mine. Other mines are unable to do this. Why is the resolution of this question so difficult? Where does the difficulty lie here?

[Shchadov] As you correctly saw, very few enterprises have gone over, and a very inconsiderable number are preparing to go over to this in the Ukraine, although in the Kuznetsk basin, of the 70 mines and 18 open-cast mines 56 have already gone over. I believe that the main obstacle for going over is the insufficiently high calculating prices which will not permit normal working by many enterprises, particularly those working at the level of just fulfilling the plan. Therefore, a new calculating price is now being worked out for 1990. So that all

enterprises should be able to work normally independently it is necessary to establish new wholesale prices and to introduce them no later than in 1991. Then the enterprises will have the necessary profitability, will have the possibility of creating funds for labor remuneration, for the development of production, and for the social development of their enterprises, and they will live and work in normal conditions.

Komsomol Central Committee Plenum Opens 27 Oct

LD2710194189 Moscow TASS in English 1241 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 27 TASS—By TASS correspondent Galina Vinitskaya:

Changes in organisation demanded by Soviet perestroika are to be at the forefront of discussions at a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Young Communist League which opened in Moscow today. The Young Communist League [YCL] (Komsomol) is a mass political organisation of the country uniting more than 32 million young people.

The agenda of the plenary meeting includes many burning issues. The preparation for the 21st Congress of the YCL and the discussion of the drafts of its programme and rules are among them.

The participants of the meeting will also discuss the work of a Central Committee commission which studied the problems connected with the Young Communist League of Lithuania's 22nd Congress.

Komsomol chief Victor Mironenko told TASS that the changes in Soviet society demand changes in the league's activity. Young people are increasing describing the situation in the league as a critical one.

"We are in need of a new model of a youth organisation. The young must be sure that their organisation will manage to protect their political, socio-economic and national interests," he said.

Victor Mironenko believes that the members of the league will manage to protect the rights of the young only if they work actively in the bodies of power. Seventy-five deputies of the Congress of People's Deputies are members of the league.

The league's main aim is to enhance the role of the young in the socio-economic development of the country. More than 500 centres of technical creativity of young people work now under the auspices of the league. More than 700 youth housing complexes help to tackle the housing problem: Over 17,000 young families moved to new apartments last year.

Speaking about the restructuring of the international activity of the league, Mironenko emphasised that the organisation focuses attention on bringing new thinking into the youth movement.

Relations with the Young Communist League of China have been re-established after a 30 year break. The league has launched a constructive dialogue with independent student, political and religious youth organisations and communities of many countries of the world.

Plenum Closes 28 Oct

LD2810210989 Moscow TASS in English 2048 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 28 TASS—By TASS correspondents Galina Vinnitskaya and Vadim Kokorev:

A Russian Young Communist League (YCL) is being established. Its emergence will be marked by the first congress which will be held on February 15, 1990.

A decision to this effect was made at the ninth plenary meeting of the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League (Komsomol) Central Committee. The plenum ended here today.

Until now the largest of the union republics, the Russian federation, had no YCL organisation of its own. The course of perestroika in the country has shown that Russia also needs political and public structures which other republics have.

The All-Union Komsomol Central Committee recognised the Young Communist League of Lithuania (YCLL) set up in June this year.

In a resolution to this effect the Komsomol Central Committee recommends that the YCLL and the Leninist Young Communist League of Lithuania (LYCLL), which continues to function in the republic, ensure normal conditions for the two leagues' interaction and cooperation, and look for ways to bring the interests of the republics' young people closer together.

The resolution emphasised the inadmissibility of division on an ethnic basis.

The plenum did not complete work on new rules of the Komsomol. Young people will continue to discuss draft rules in the primary organisation and in the press.

The participants in the plenum adopted a programme statement by the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee for the Komsomol's 21st Congress (planned for April 1990).

They firmly declared in favour of the country's headway along the road of democratic transformation and determining priorities in Komsomol activities in the run-up to the congress.

Komsomol supports the establishment of numerous informal youth associations in the country and is ready to cooperate with them, the statement points out.

Using its material resources, Komsomol intends to help the professional development of youths and girls, specifically, to open schools of young industrial managers.

The statement expresses the concern of Komsomol Central Committee members in view of the aggravation of inter-ethnic relations in the country.

The participants in the plenum see a way out of these conflicts in the resolution of socio-economic problems at an earliest date.

It was decided to hold an all-union student forum in Moscow on November 15-19 to draw society's attention to the problems of higher school and to promote more active participation of students in perestroika processes.

Progress Toward Estonian Currency Viewed

LD2610123289 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] The Baltic republic of Estonia has embarked on the creation of its own republican currency. As our correspondent Maksim Tkachenko reports the move should be seen in the framework of the republic's transition to economic independence.

The Estonian government's plan says that special certificates will be issued as of January next year. The press attache of the Estonian mission in Moscow, (Andrey Birov), has said in a telephone interview that the certificates will be used to pay up to 20 percent of wages and salaries. Most goods that are in short supply in Estonia, including its capital Tallinn, are sold exclusively to local residents, says (Andrey Birov). To buy certain goods in a store you have to present identification papers first. Certificates will substitute for this procedure. The new draft is an attempt to control the market and put in order the supply of bottleneck goods by making them unavailable to visitors. However, (Andrey Birov) believes that the experiment with certificates will be just the first step towards a new republican currency—something many Estonian lawmakers and government officials have been calling for. They argue that the measure would prove effective in tackling the economic crisis, establishing a free market and developing foreign economic ties.

Although the bill on certificates is still being discussed there have been signs that it is likely to be introduced by the end of the year. Opinion polls and articles in the newspapers have shown that the idea is very popular with the local people. Earlier this year the USSR's legislature supported Estonia and some other republics in drafting bills on the introduction of regional cost accounting as of next year. Under the program all industries, organizations, and government bodies in the given territory will operate on the principles of independence, cost accounting and self financing. The republics will have economic and political sovereignty and the federal authorities will be responsible for determining general economic proportions and for national programs. As a result Estonia will have more favorable conditions to develop than most other republics. Press attache of the Estonian mission in Moscow, (Andrey Birov):

[(Birov) in Russian with superimposed English translation] I believe that the measure will benefit the whole nation. We are an integral part of the economic system after all. Higher living standards in separate republics will spell higher living standards in the country in general.

[Announcer] Deputy prime minister, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Leonid Abalkin, says in the weekly NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] that all regions of the Soviet Union will make the transition to cost accounting sooner or later. In 1990 the transition will effect another Baltic republic, Lithuania, the city of Moscow, the Sverdlovsk region in the Urals, and the autonomous republic of Tataria in the center of the Soviet Union's European part. Preserving the Soviet economy as an integral complex will prove the main problem. Negotiating agreements between republics are a likely way out [sentence as heard].

Candidates Nominated for Estonian Local Elections

LD2710211389 Moscow TASS in English 2042 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Tallinn October 27 ETA-TASS—Candidates have been nominated for Estonia's local soviets. The elections will start on December 10.

The record number of candidates, 352, were nominated for the Tallinn city soviet. They will compete for 80 mandates.

Citizens actively participate in the election campaign, it was learnt at the electoral commission of Tallinn.

Most work collectives nominated their candidates. Almost a quarter of the number of candidates were nominated as citizens initiative. Some ten candidates suggested their candidatures themselves.

Communists, non-party people and representatives of a number of popular movements will run for the Tallinn city soviet.

The recent calls to boycott the forthcoming elections have not met broad support.

Candidates were nominated even by those work collectives, on whom, by all indications, those who planned a boycott were going to rely.

Riga Paper on 19 Oct Baltic Ministers Meeting

LD2710185989 Riga in Latvian to Europe
2130 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Talking about last week's events in Latvia, it must be mentioned that this evening Latvian television is broadcasting a report about a conference of the heads of the councils of ministers of the Baltic republics which took place last Thursday [19 October] in Riga.

Yesterday the newspaper CINA published a review of this conference. In summing up what was said there, the following principal problems emerge:

Implementation of economic reform in the country is marking time. Influential forces endeavor to control those who want more radical advances. To achieve this with unity among the Baltic republics would be incomparably more difficult.

One of the principal questions is agreement with the Union on commitments. This draft agreement is necessary to preserve a balance and not to allow an exchange of material assets for worthless money. However, at a session of the USSR Council of Ministers a categorical "no" was given to such an agreement. This still has to be fought for. However Moscow has envisaged colossal sums for the settlement of the republics' accounts with the center if an agreement with the USSR Government is successfully concluded. This would be capable of stifling the wish of Baltic people for an agreement on commitments.

However, those sums have also been calculated which have accumulated since 1940 in connection with withdrawing money, loss of people, taking away of possessions. The sum to be paid to those who suffered from deportation in Latvia alone reaches R300 million; in Lithuania still another R500 million. This must be paid back not from the republics' budgets but from the Union's budget.

Our free-of-charge Army costs Latvia R20 million, not to mention what the land occupied by Army units costs.

The center calculates as large as possible revenues for the republics, but determines expenditures subjectively. The remainder is deducted from the republic's budget either with the aid of mystical coefficients or along a multi-channel system of payments. The sums which we give away to the Union budget are neither explained nor substantiated. Finance experts are fighting for the introduction of a single-channel system of payments.

The center, of course, does not want to annul a debt to Lithuania of around R1 billion which has, as it were, arisen in connection with meat deliveries.

Also the credit resources belonging to the republic must be fought for regarding the considerable sums which the center forcibly deprives the republic of in various types of insurance.

The stance of the center has but a single meaning—to evade concrete commitments as much as possible. It is not without reason that the law on the republic's sovereignty has been shifted to the bottom of the agenda at the USSR Supreme Soviet's session, so that much will already be decided through the laws adopted beforehand.

The republics' property rights to the land have been much discussed. However, have the Baltic republics ever handed over their land or natural resources for the

Union's disposal? Estonia has succeeded in getting 70 of the 170 union-subordinated enterprises under the control of the republic.

Centralization has prospered recently as they placed the Baltic republics in a situation in which they absolutely lack rights in the field of external economic contacts. Our republics bring in imported materials in exchange for foreign currency, we produce consumer goods, and after that we sell them beyond the republic's borders for rubles of little value.

Also the question of organizing joint trade representations of the Baltic republics in the Scandinavian countries, in Western Europe, as well as in the United States, Canada, and of course, in the Soviet Union, is not to be delayed.

Drugs Consignment Discovered in Riga

LD2710170289 Moscow TASS in English 2109 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—A large consignment of narcotics has been discovered in the sea port of Riga during a customs examination of a transit cargo on the way from Philippines to Belgium. This prompted a large-scale operation to cut short contraband activity of a multi-national narcotics ring.

As a result of the operations organized and held by the USSR Customs Service jointly with the KGB of the USSR and in cooperation with the Belgian and the Dutch authorities, a channel for narcotics from South East Asia to Europe via the USSR and from the Netherlands to Great Britain has been discovered and disrupted. 16 persons have been arrested. An investigation is being conducted.

Lithuania's Brazauskas on Political Developments

LD2810104589 Vilnius in English to North America 2300 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Excerpts] The leader of the Lithuanian Communist Party, Algirdas Brazauskas, has met today with the representatives of various grassroots movements and the newly established political parties of Lithuania. The present political, economic, and social situation, the ways and means of improving it, were discussed at the meeting. It was the first meeting of this kind. Until now the Lithuanian Communist Party did not take part in the coordinate [as heard] works of various Lithuanian political movements.

In his weekly Friday radio interview Algirdas Brazauskas noted that the meeting took place in an atmosphere of a commonly acknowledged final goal and a common strategy. Various ways of reaching this goal were discussed. According to Algirdas Brazauskas, the grassroots movements envisage a short term strategy to reach the independence of Lithuania, while the Lithuanian Communist Party thinks that the road towards state sovereignty will be long and difficult.

Mr Brazauskas said that the newly established political parties will be able to express their views on radio and television. However, this will become possible only when the election campaign to the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet starts (?early) next year.

The Lithuanian Communist Party leader noted that the nominees to the Lithuanian Parliament should not only declare their final goals but should also speak on ways and means of achieving them. [passage omitted]

It was also decided that from now on representatives of the Lithuanian Communist Party will participate in regular, coordinated meetings of all political forces in Lithuania. [passage omitted]

New Regulations Say Lithuanian Party 'Independent'

LD2910011589 Vilnius in English to North America 2300 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Today the Lithuanian news agency ELTA has presented the draft regulations of the Lithuanian Communist Party. The regulations were worked out by a working group of the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party and the initiative group of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. The new regulations are based on the idea that the Lithuanian Communist Party is an independent communist party and not part of the CPSU. The final goal of the Lithuanian Communist Party is the reestablishment of a sovereign Lithuanian State.

Mironenko on Lithuanian Komsomol Decision

LD2910191189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Interview with V.I. Mironenko, first secretary of the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee by Igor Minayev, date, place not given—live or recorded, from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Minayev] They say that there's always a key link and if you get a grip on it you can move the whole chain of problems forward. Does the Komsomol now have this main link in sight?

[Mironenko] These are not new problems. They have not arisen from perestroika over the past 3 or 4 years. They were there and people know that they always have been. They have grown and become bigger. How to resolve them during these brief years or months is truly complex. We have been racking our brains over this for 2 days at the Central Committee plenum. Although some people sometimes smile ironically and say look at what they are doing there—they are busying themselves with programs, statutes, and some texts or other—we realize that no programs, no statutes can in this case help, or more precisely, resolve the problems that still exist in the Komsomol. Only these 32 million people themselves will resolve them; the 100,000 people who are in the aktiv of that organization or work in it will resolve them. First and foremost, some realistic and totally specific deeds will resolve them.

[Minayev] We have recently seen centrifugal processes in the Komsomol. The Lithuanian Komsomol has separated itself off to become an independent organization and these processes will evidently continue. What is your attitude toward them?

[Mironenko] It is one of alarm. Centrifugal processes in a united organization which we, of course, wish to preserve for all Soviet youth, be it in Lithuania, Latvia, Georgia, Estonia, the Ukraine, or Russia, centrifugal tendencies are a very unpleasant and dangerous thing. There are objective reasons for them—you know about this as, I am convinced, do the viewers—but we must attempt to overcome them, not by the administrative method, not by means of suppression, but, and this is what the plenum is trying to do, by putting forward goals and proposing forms that would show people that it is in their own interests to be in a united union. I know of no other path.

[Minayev] What would you wish for a young person setting out on life?

[Mironenko] I would only wish, on the anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol, for great human happiness for all members of the all-union Komsomol, all Komsomol members, despite the very difficult times at present, as well as time for everyone to think together about the union. The union will be as you wish to make it. No one can prevent this, but it won't be possible to do this without your participation. [video shows Mironenko talking to camera]

Sajudis Decision on Lithuanian Citizenship Law

LD2710174389 Vilnius in English to North America
2300 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] As has been reported, Sajudis Seimas has adopted the decision on the Citizenship Law of Lithuania.

It says, quote: The Seimas is of the opinion that the Citizenship Law of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] can be adopted on the following terms and with the amendments enumerated below. The citizen of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic is supposed to observe the Constitution of the Lithuanian SSR and to obey the laws of the Lithuanian SSR. Unquote.

According to the present Lithuanian Constitution, the Lithuanian citizen is supposed to adhere to the Soviet Constitution and to obey the laws of the USSR. This draft variant of the article is to be discussed and adopted at the coming Supreme Soviet session of Lithuania.

The second item of the Seimas decision on this issue says, quote: As the Lithuanian SSR is not the subject of international law, the citizenship of the Lithuanian SSR is valid only inside the Lithuanian SSR. The aim of the Lithuanian Citizenship Law is to contribute to the

creating of a legitimate opportunity to defend the interests of the residents of the Lithuanian SSR and to create conditions for them to restore a sovereign Lithuanian state. Unquote.

I must explain at this point that Article 31 of the present Constitution provides for a double citizenship. Which means that each citizen of the Lithuanian SSR is at the same time a citizen of the Soviet Union. But it also means that the rebirth is also vital [as heard]; that is, that any Soviet citizen is automatically a Lithuanian citizen.

It is stressed in the preamble that we do not recognize this double citizenship and only the citizenship of the Lithuanian SSR is recognized.

Sajudis Seimas is of the opinion that the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet must go back to the electoral law and review the planned in advance date of the election. That means that the planned election date, the 24th February, could be transferred to some earlier time, (?as that) the notion that citizenship should figure in the law.

The right of the soldiers doing their military duty on the Lithuanian territory must be limited too.

Beside the Ownership Law, some other very important issues were discussed at the Sajudis Seimas session. One of them was the preparations for the elections to the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet. Mecys Laurinkus, a member of the Seimas Council, laid out the general program worked out by the Seimas Council. The main points of this program are the following:

Up to the 1st December district (?consensus) must be held and candidates to the deputies nominated. At the beginning of December an extended Seimas session must be held with the representatives from the district local soviets taking part. The election platform is to be discussed at the session. Later on, on the 14th January, the Sajudis election conference Lithuania's Way is to be convened for the outlining of the prospects for both the Sajudis reform movement and the Supreme Soviet and for the final approvement of the election platform. At this conference the nominees of Sajudis, the deputies, must be announced too.

The issue of the second congress of Sajudis was also discussed at the recent Seimas session. In principle, the Seimas supported the view that the congress must be held next spring, in March or in April.

And then there was one more very important question discussed at the Sajudis Seimas session and that was the affairs of the Sajudis press. Recently there has been observed a tendency of the Sajudis press getting detached from the Sajudis movement itself [word indistinct] from Sajudis councils of particular (?towns) or districts, both in economic and political trends. It is no longer clear what in fact Sajudis press is, as distinct from free press. Many speakers expressed the opinion that Sajudis had no longer a press of its own and that it was important that it had its press now that the election was

so near at hand. The newspaper KAUNO AIDAS, which declared itself as being an absolutely independent publication but retained the name given to it by Sajudis, was mentioned as an example to be followed. So the Kaunas Council was left without the press of its own. The situation in other publications of Sajudis is similar too. Vytautas Landsbergis said that it looks like we would have to begin from the very beginning, initiating new publications as we did with the work of Sajudis.

At this Seimas session a group of deputies was set up to see about the elaboration of Sajudis press (?conception). The discussion on the press was very (?sharp).

Many deputies of the Seimas left the hall before the discussion came to an end and so the issue will have to be taken up again. Most probably it will happen during the next Sajudis Seimas session to be held in mid-November.

Belorussian Supreme Soviet Debates Election Law

LD2710164789 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Minsk October 27 TASS—Acute debate continued in the session of Belorussia's Supreme Soviet here today. It concerned the bills on elections of people's deputies from the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and amendments and supplements to the republic's Constitution.

Deputies proposed that items in the bill about the nomination of candidates from public organisations at district election meetings be dropped because they are undemocratic and unconstitutional.

The deputies made reference to numerous letters and appeals from voters demanding direct and equal elections.

Many speakers emphasised that the Communist Party and public organisations are capable of bringing their representatives into parliament through equal and open competition.

The democratisation of the election process can only strengthen the Soviet Communist Party's authority and confirm its reputation as the sponsor of perestroika.

Those who oppose the decision also advanced weighty arguments.

They expressed concern that if there is no election from public organisations, the interests of veterans, disabled persons and other less protected groups of the population will be insufficiently represented in the republic's Supreme Soviet.

Following a debate that lasted throughout the day, the participants in the session arrived at a compromise solution. Only two public organisations: the Council of War Veterans and Veteran Workers and the Disabled

Persons Society have been given the right to elect their candidates to Belorussia's Supreme Soviet.

Other organisations, among them the Soviet Communist Party, will participate in the election on a general basis.

An absolute majority of deputies declared for the abrogation of district election meetings in Belorussia, for strict observance of the principle when there is more than one name on a ballot. After these amendments the deputies adopted the Law on elections.

The session of Belorussia's Supreme Soviet was broadcast live, so residents of Belorussia could follow the debates.

Ukraine Supreme Soviet Session Ends 28 Oct

Discusses Draft Laws, Chernobyl

LD2810182889 Moscow TASS in English 1808 GMT
28 Oct 89

[Text] Kiev October 28 TASS—By TASS Correspondent Viktor Demidenko:

Elections of people's deputies of the Ukraine and local soviets will take place on Sunday, March 4, 1990. This decision was taken by the republic's parliament at a session which closed today.

For four days the deputies discussed the draft laws on changes and amendments to the republican Constitution, election of people's deputies of the Ukraine and deputies of local government councils, as well as the law on languages. Debates involved more than 300 people and included people's deputies of the USSR and the Ukraine who had the right of deliberative vote.

The deputies rejected the provision of the draft constitution on the Congress of People's Deputies of the Ukraine, as it is accepted on a nationwide scale. The supreme body of state authority is the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine consisting of 450 members (it now has 650 members). There will be no elections from public organisations. Any number of candidates can be entered into the ballot.

The proposal of a group of USSR people's deputies from the Ukraine to introduce the presidential form of government in the republic and elect the president of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine by direct universal vote was rejected. The majority of deputies believe that it would run counter to the principle of sovereignty of soviets, the collective nature of their work.

The law making Ukrainian the state language and guaranteeing free development of all national languages in the republic, the possibility of their equal use in various fields of state, political and social life was passed by the majority of votes. Russian was recognised as the language of inter-ethnic communication.

Replying to deputies' inquiries on the Chernobyl nuclear power station, Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol briefed the deputies on measures aimed at speeding up the clean-up in the affected area and improving the ecological situation in the republic.

The session showed the deputies' striving to exert every effort to revive the soviets as masters of territories under their subordination, to extend the powers of the bodies of people's government in tackling the problems of socio-economic development of their regions. At the same time the need was stressed to ensure integrity of the country's economic complex.

Language Bill Debated

LD2710192989 Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT
27 Oct 89

[Text] Kiev October 27 TASS—By TASS correspondent Viktor Demidenko:

Today the bill on languages was the main topic of the third day of the session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

Most deputies believe a law on the languages is necessary and timely.

Speakers noted that the use of the Ukrainian language, which is the mother tongue for the majority of the republic's population, has been narrowing over decades.

The number of schools teaching in Ukrainian has decreased.

As a result, Ukrainian speech is less used at enterprises, in institutions and scientific establishments, in state and government bodies and public organisations.

The new law is called upon to remedy the situation: Office work in the republic will be conducted in Ukrainian.

Discussing the bill, deputies considered the fact that the Ukraine is a multi-ethnic republic. In addition to Ukrainians, it is inhabited by Russians, Jews, Belorussians, Moldavians, Poles, Bulgarians, Hungarians, Romanians, Greeks, Crimean Tatars and people of other nationalities.

Deputies noted with satisfaction the provisions of the bill which envisage free development of all national languages in the republic and guarantee the possibility of their active and equal use in various areas of state, political and public life.

As to the Russian language, it will remain the language of inter-ethnic communication.

At the same time, some deputies declared that there should be two official languages in the Ukraine—Ukrainian and Russian.

This viewpoint is supported by people from southern and eastern regions of the republic where Russian-speaking population predominates.

There are also proposals not to adopt the law yet, but to submit its perfected variant to repeated discussion by the people.

Deputies' remarks and proposals have been referred for the consideration of three permanent commissions of the Ukraine's Supreme Soviet. After refinement, the bill will again be submitted for deputies' discussion.

Ivashko on Parliament Session

LD2910230489 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party leader, Vladimir Ivashko, has described the session the Ukrainian parliament has completed as the first experience of real lawmaking. The laws on languages that parliament adopted, said Ivashko in a television interview, help revive Ukrainians' mother tongue without damaging any of the nationalities in the republic. On informal organizations, he pointed out he believed the Soviet Communist Party was society's key and only consolidating force. The party itself, he said, had to become more democratic—it needed the election of a recognized and informal leader and had to turn into an alliance of people who can freely think and freely express their views.

Shevchenko's Impressions

LD2710182389

[Editorial Report] Kiev in English to Europe at 1900 GMT on 26 October broadcasts a 15-minute report on the 10th session of the 11th convocation of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

The announcer says: "The deputies discussed the report on the legal guarantees of the reforms of the representative bodies of state power in the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] delivered yesterday at the session by the chairperson of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the republic, Valentyna Shevchenko." Asked for her impressions of the first day of the session, she is quoted as saying that people were very interested in the work of the session, and that many watched TV programs on the Supreme Soviet session.

Shevchenko is further quoted as saying: "And at this session we today examined such an issue which concerns almost each and every person, and what is more important, many people took part in the preparation of this issue. I have already said in my report that more than 15 million people participated. The adoption of the Law on Elections to the Local Soviets of People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR and the Law on Languages in the Ukrainian SSR are important documents which concern almost every family and work collective, said Valentyna Shevchenko."

The announcer continues: "Today, during the clause-by-clause discussion of the draft laws of the amendments to the Ukraine's Constitution on the elections to the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine and local soviets of the republic, many concrete and businesslike proposals have been forwarded and various opinions expressed. Here is an opinion concerning the future model of the Ukraine's parliament. [Word indistinct] worker deputy (Olha Juba): I would like to express my view that the parliament must be a working body. I cannot agree with the idea that a deputy, if engaged in deputy's work only, will break ties with the work collective, with his electors. I think a deputy who will exercise his duties as a deputy only will therefore have more opportunities to work in his constituency and his work will be more useful, said [word indistinct] worker (Olha Juba)."

The announcer says that those invited to the session include journalists and foreign guests, leaders of ministries and departments, as well as public organizations.

"Present in the session hall was First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Young Communists League of the Ukraine, the Komsomol, (Anatoliy Matbeyenko), recently elected at the plenum of the Komsomol Central Committee from among several candidates. A Radio Kiev correspondent asked him to share his opinion of the fact that at the session many deputies come out against guaranteeing a definite number of seats for public organizations, Komsomol included. As is known, (Anatoliy Matbeyenko) previously backed up this idea. What does he think about it now, whether or not he regrets this? Our reporter asked (Anatoliy Matbeyenko). Not in the least, says (Anatoliy Matbeyenko). It took some time before I arrived at a conclusion that public organizations should not elect deputies on their own. Later on, when we learned public opinion and the sentiments of the majority of young electors, we arrived at the conclusion that we need real conditions today, not artificial ones, which would guarantee equal opportunities to all candidates, including young ones. In such a case a young candidate will never lose anything, but on the contrary he will acquire more experience of political activities, even if he is not elected a deputy. We stand for equal conditions, and under these equal conditions we should confirm our status of a leading public political organization, said (Anatoliy Matbeyenko).

"One of the deputies who represented the city of Kiev suggested that half the people's deputies should be elected from the work collectives to ensure adequate representation of workers in the soviet. Here is what (Mikola Didek) a deputy from Vinnitsa region, said at the session: I want to come out against the proposal of the deputy from Kiev. We always say that a decision before it is taken must be scientifically grounded, but this proposal violates both scientific grounding and objectivism. Why? Because the political structure of our society is being united by soviets. Then we have work collectives which unite individuals, then the republic organizations, the Soviet Communist Party which is the (?moving) force of the Soviet society and during the

latest elections we violated this political structure and elected deputies from the public organizations, and that is what we have been blamed for by the people. We have agreed to do away with such a practice, and not only we here arrived at such a decision but also in the USSR, in the Russian federation, in Belorussia. Now we again return to a constituent part of the general structure of a political society. We turned down the idea of electing deputies at public organizations, but we shall organize additional elections at the workers' collectives. The soviets to be elected will represent all the strata of the country's population, said (Mikola Didek)."

The announcer continues: "Deputy Academician (Konstantin Sednik) had his own opinion of this issue: Let us adopt a decision, apart from the law now under discussion, which would allow regional, city, district, and village soviets to carry out such elections in separate regions, districts, and cities as an experiment.

"The people's deputy of the USSR, writer Yuriy Shcherbak, expressed an opinion contradicting that of (Konstantin Sednik): This is not the place for experiments but a serious affair. There must be a single election system for the entire republic.

"People's Deputy of the USSR, writer (Dmitro Pavlechko), backed up the opinion of Yuriy Shcherbak: I was nominated by the workers of the town of Kalush; does it mean that I will not represent the interests of workers? It is quite clear that the might of our society has always been due to the fact that workers defend the interests of the intellectuals and intellectuals defend the interests of the working class. We must further abide by this principle, said writer (Dmitro Pavlechko).

"A heated debate at the session was focused on yet another issue. There was a polemic between people's deputies of the USSR from the Ukraine invited to the session and the deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine. Thus some deputies of the Ukrainian parliament thought that the guests of the session, that is people's deputies of the USSR, imposed their opinion on them, their position. Here is for instance what was said at the session by a deputy, rector of the Kiev State University (Viktor Skopenko): I would like to address certain people's deputies with a question. Why don't you let us work in a quiet atmosphere? It even makes me personally somewhat nervous. I cannot concentrate on the articles of the draft law, but I will have to vote for them or against, said (Viktor Skopenko).

"However, Valentyna Shevchenko noted that quite a few proposals of the people's deputies of the USSR have a constructive character and help greatly in the work of the session. She was supported by the majority of the deputies."

"During a break our reporters asked an official of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Sybyr Gurchak) the following: Will the current composition of the Supreme Soviet be able to adopt just those laws which correspond to the needs of the restructuring? (Sybyr Gurchak) said: I think so; that's my opinion. The thing is that at present

we witness a kind of politicization of the entire population. This process undoubtedly involved the deputies as well. I must say that when I see how people can now freely express their thoughts without using any notes it impresses me positively. I believe that today all the deputies, no matter what way they were elected, understand quite well their duty before the people, understand their duty in the restructuring processes, and I think that they will display a complete responsibility in this matter, said (Sybyr Gurchak)."

The announcer continues: "Today, People's Deputy of the USSR, writer Boris Olyenik, made a report at the session of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet on the draft law on the Ukrainian SSR on languages in the Ukrainian SSR. He pointed out that in the course of a nationwide discussion of the draft law thousands of proposals have been received by the Supreme Soviet from work collectives and citizens of the Ukraine. The draft law was widely discussed on the pages of the press, over radio and TV, and the very fact that this draft law has been included in the agenda of the current session proves that this is a call of time brought about by changes in our society, democratization of our entire lives."

The announcer ends with an interview with USSR People's Deputy (Oleg Runchak). "Asked whether he approved the draft law on languages in the Ukrainian SSR, the latter answered: I do approve it on the whole. It could have been done better, but in general it is a progressive document. The main thing is that it gives Ukrainian a status of a state language. Very important is the provision of the draft law which requires that Ukrainian be included in the list of entrance exams; kindergartens and various establishments, it calls for transfer to Ukrainian. A significant advantage and a valuable feature of the draft is that it guarantees full equality to all younger brothers—Jews and Hungarians, Gagauzes and Greeks—this testifies to the internationalist spirit reigning among the Ukrainian people. The advantage of this draft law lies in the fact that it is not aimed against anybody: it is aimed at the protection, yes, at the protection of the national language, but not against anybody. It is directed at a friendly and fraternal cooperation which is peculiar of a good state, said (Oleg Runchak)."

Moldavian SSR Referendum Draft Law Detailed

90UN0126A Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA
in Russian 11 Oct 89 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Commentary on the Draft Law of the Moldavian SSR 'On the Referendum (Popular Vote) in the Moldavian SSR'"]

[Text] The current draft of the Law is called on to establish a standard legal regulation on relationships in the organization and conduct of a referendum (popular vote) as the most democratic method of direct participation by citizens of the republic in the adoption of the Laws of the Moldavian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], and in the resolution of other more important questions

of state and public life, and to contribute to the realization of the potential of this democratic institution in practice.

Today, under the conditions of perestroika, and in connection with the rapidly developing process of social renewal, the country and the republic are faced daily with numerous problems of an economic, political, social, legal, and other nature, among which many require detailed and attentive study, generalization and analysis, national discussion, and a well-reasoned approach in making pertinent decisions.

For the purposes of establishing legal guarantees for granting the citizens of the republic their own constitutional rights to an active and direct participation in the creation of laws and the resolution of the most important questions of state and social life, in June of this year, at the initiative of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Moldavian SSR, a group of scientists and specialists worked up the first version of the draft of the future Law on the Referendum. The group was organized from among officials of the Ministry of Justice of the Moldavian SSR (Deputy Minister N.F. Tupitsyn), the Academy of Sciences of the Moldavian SSR (Candidate of Legal Sciences V.I. Mokryak), the juridical faculty of V.I. Lenin KGU [Kishinev State University] (Candidate of Juridical Sciences Yu.I. Tyuteykin), the staff of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Comrades V.I. Tsurkan, and Yu.N. Todyka, a candidate of juridical sciences). Afterwards, the draft was sent to the appropriate ministries and departments, gor-rayispolkoms [city-rayon soviet executive committees], the KGU imeni V.I. Lenin, the AN MSSR [Academy of Sciences of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic], and to a number of large enterprises and organizations for an initial review and submission of proposals and comments on the substance of the draft.

The following were used as a basis for the development of the draft Law: The USSR Law "On Elections to the USSR People's Deputies" of 1 December 1988, the draft USSR Law "On Procedures for National Discussion and Voting on Major Questions of the Life of the Country, and Also Discussions by the Population of Draft Decisions by Local Soviets," the Law of the Moldavian SSR "On National Discussions on Important Questions of State Life" of 10 June 1988, and also the experience of the legislation-drafting activity in this sphere of a number of European socialist countries (Hungary and Poland).

In its structure, the draft Law consists of a preamble and three chapters: I—"General Provisions," II—"Procedure for Calling and Conducting a Republic Referendum," III—"Procedure for Calling and Conducting a Local Referendum," which regulate pertinent groups of relationships in implementing the institution of the referendum.

Chapter I establishes the types of referendums (republic, local, and special, which can have both republic and local character), which is determined by the significance

and nature of the questions submitted for popular voting and the circle of persons whose interests the referendum affects (Articles 1-4 of the draft).

These articles also set forth the concepts of republic, local, and special referendums, and they establish the procedure for the framing of questions, the circle of entities (organs, organizations, and officials) that have the right to submit proposals concerning the conduct of a referendum, and the mechanism for making pertinent decisions about satisfaction or noncompliance in the conduct of an appropriate referendum.

Simultaneously, the series of questions that refer to the competence of republic, local, republic special, and local special referendums was determined to be in full accord with the existing legislative limits on the competence of republic and local organs of state authority, and they take into account the prospects for a legislative broadening of the competence of the local organs.

In this context, the draft Law consolidates the principle of the inadmissibility of introducing questions in local and local special referendums that are outside the area of competence of pertinent organs and that affect the interests of the population of other territories or the entire republic.

A procedure was also established (principles and conditions) for the participation of citizens of the republic in a referendum and participation by public organizations and work collectives in preparing for and conducting referendums. The principles of glasnost in the preparation and conduct of a referendum, the procedure for attributing expenditures on its conduct, and the conditions for assigning responsibility for violations of the legislation on a referendum, were reinforced (Articles 5-10 of the draft).

Chapter 2 establishes the procedure and periods for calling a republic referendum, the organization of republic, territorial, and district commissions for the organizational preparation and conduct of referendums, and their competence; the duty of state and public organs, enterprises, establishments, organizations, and officials in providing assistance to the commissions carrying out their authority to conduct a referendum; and the regulation of relations on the direct organizational work of the commissions (compilation of lists of citizens, the procedure for including citizens in them and familiarization with them, the time and place of voting, the conduct of voting, the counting of votes in districts, establishing the results of a referendum, and their publication and effective date (Articles 11-29).

Articles 28, 29, and 30 of the second chapter consolidate the legal consequences that occur as a result of a referendum, i.e., the conditions are specified under which, as a result of the referendum, there is approval or disapproval of a draft of one or another law, or a decision on introducing changes of laws in force, including those in the Moldavian SSR Constitution. A procedure is also established for the abrogation of a law or other decision

which was adopted as a result of a referendum, in accordance with which such a Law or decision could be abrogated only by means of conducting a referendum.

A rule was also introduced about the fact that (part 7 of Article 28) repeat referendums (republic, local, or special) on one and the same question could be held no earlier than after 2 years. The present rule proceeds from the fact that the most important questions of a republic or local significance are raised in a referendum, whose critical need of resolution is recognized by the organs of authority and by a majority of the population, and also to avoid the possibility that organs of authority would spend a long time on one and the same question.

Chapter 3 regulates relations in the organization of the conduct of a local referendum, the procedure for reaching decisions about its conduct, its promulgation, the formation of commissions for its conduct, and other procedural questions.

One of the most important principles set forth in the draft of the current Law (part 2, Article 1) is the principle of the inadmissibility (prohibition) of introducing questions in republic, local, and special referendums that overstep the limits of the competence of the higher and local organs of the state authority of the Moldavian SSR. This also means those that contradict a law of the republic that is in force. As a means of precluding such cases and control over adherence to the established prohibition, there are provisions in part 4 of Article 1, part 2 of Article 2, part 2 of Article 3, and in Article 4 of the draft Law about the fact that proposals for the conduct of a referendum are submitted to the appropriate organs and officials in the Supreme Soviet of the Moldavian SSR and to appropriate local soviets of people's deputies who determine the validity of the submitted proposals and the feasibility of their approval or disapproval, including their pertinence to legislation that is in force.

Chernobyl Union Tasks Set Out by Chairman

*LD2910215189 Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT
29 Oct 89*

[Text] Moscow October 29 TASS—The aim of the Chernobyl Union, a new non-government organisation, set up at the Soviet Fund of Social Inventions is to make nuclear energy as safe as possible and to preclude any chance for new accidents under conditions when there is no alternative to nuclear power for the time being.

This idea was expressed by Lev Khitrov, chairman of the executive committee of the new organisation, in an interview with the newspaper IZVESTIYA.

Noting that it is necessary to select the designs of nuclear power plants on a competition basis even now, as well as to have constant public control over the construction and operation of nuclear facilities, he said that the Union

is contemplating the question of how to send commissions of independent experts to operating nuclear power plant with its own funds.

Apart from the safety of the nuclear power industry, the Union also sets the task of social protection of people who suffered as a result of the Chernobyl disaster: Those who participated in overcoming the consequences of the disaster and those who lived or live in contaminated areas. All of them need skilled medical aid as well as material support and legal protection.

Noting that panic fear of the nuclear power industry is as dangerous as a careless attitude to it, Khitrov said that, therefore, the Union plans to organize a country-wide training so that people should be guided in their actions not by emotions but by knowledge.

He said that in its financial activities the Union counts on donations from state and cooperative organizations as well as individuals. The Soviet Fund of Social Inventions has already contributed some 100,000 roubles to the new organization.

Azerbaijan Bureau Members, Social Groups Confer

NC3010082489 *Baku Domestic Service in Azeri*
1700 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The meetings held by a number of the members and candidate members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau with the social representatives of various cities and rayons in Azerbaijan on 27 October examined the important decisions adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 20 October for the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh [NKAO] problem through political means and the views put forward by the meeting held by the republic's party aktiv.

Speeches were made by Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov in Agdam and Beynagan Rayons, Ayaz Mutaibov in Narimanov Rayon, V. Polyanichko in Sumgait and Shusha Rayons, Telman Orudzhev in Apsheron Rayon, R. Zenalov in Oktyabrskiy Rayon, Gasan Gasanov in Kirov Rayon, Muslim Mamedov in Masally Rayon, Oktay Bagirov in Nizami Rayon, and R. Akhundov in Mingechaur.

The meetings noted that new opportunities have emerged to normalize the situation and create interethnic security and solidarity. A new stage has begun in the work required in that regard and this stage has assigned lofty responsibilities to each and every member of the republic for stabilizing the situation and restoring normal life in Azerbaijan's today and tomorrow.

Restoration of traditional, friendly, and neighborly relations between the rayons, cities, work collectives and individual citizens will contribute toward the establishment of bridges of cooperation and mutual agreement. Instigations, harmful rumors, lack of confidence, and

everything else which can sow the seeds of discord and deepen alienation must be categorically removed.

The patriotic duty of the (?students), [word indistinct], and all the workers is to do everything they can to change the existing situation, unite the steadfast forces, and resolve all the problems in an atmosphere of respect and solidarity. Every effort must be made to provide the long-awaited security to each and every house and family in NKAO and Azerbaijan as a whole.

The meetings noted in particular that ending the 4th year of the 5-year plan period with success, fulfilling the economic and social development plans, and upgrading the people's standard of living is essential.

The city and rural workers wholeheartedly voiced support for the republic's party organization's policy aimed at normalizing the situation in the region.

Tensions Persist in Nagorno-Karabakh Oblast

NC2810084089 *Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian*
0200 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The situation remains unchanged in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]. If the NKAO is an area of tension today, then Kirgishan settlement on the outskirts of Stepnankert could be considered the hottest part of that area. In Kirgishan, the lawless, interethnic actions have become an ordinary phenomena. Yesterday, at 2100, unidentified persons fired five shots in that part of the city; fortunately there were no casualties.

Transportation security has not been ensured on the oblast's roads. On 26 October, a group of Azeris near the village of Malibeyli in Shushinskiy Rayon stoned a Kamaz vehicle belonging to the Martuni winery. The vehicle's windshield was smashed. The day before, an attempt was made to blow up the bridge on the Mardakert-Stepanakert road over the Khobartlu River in Mardakertskiy Rayon. An explosive device was used and resulted in a 25-cm wide and 15-cm deep crater. The bridge remained intact for vehicle crossings. An investigation is under way.

The oblast's economy is in a lamentable situation. The severe fuel shortage and the chronic cuts in the provision of necessary raw materials have reduced to naught the labors of the industrial workers. On 26 October, the city received 2 tanks of benzine and a little more than 2 tanks of diesel fuel. It has also received metal construction frames.

The farmers also face problems. They are worried about the shortage of fuel and (?seeds). As a result, the optimal timetables for autumn sowing are being disrupted. Many farms have not been repaired and are not ready for the wintering of the animals. If we add the shortage of feed, in particular mixed feed, then it becomes obvious what difficulties the NKAO animal breeders could face this winter.

Commentator on Situation

*LD281014489 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0840 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (TASS)—TASS Commentator Aleksey Lvov writes:

Despite measures being taken by union departments, local authorities and party organizations, the tension is not letting up in the Transcaucasian republics—one of the country's 'hotspots'. Therefore, to prevent an escalation of the confrontation and to maintain public order and public safety, the state has been obliged to dispatch internal troops to those republics.

According to information given at a briefing by Yuri Shatalin, head of the Main Administration of Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, 1,800 of those troops are currently deployed in Armenia, 3,600 in Azerbaijan and 4,500 in Georgia. The sad 'record' is held by Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKA0], part of Azerbaijan, where the number of internal troops comes to 5,500. The internal troops are protecting important state sites in the NKA0 and are accompanying convoys carrying national economic cargos and food.

Although the strike on the Azerbaijan railway, via which Armenia receives up to 85 percent of all goods imported into the republic, has been stopped, units of internal troops have to accompany trains travelling to Armenia and to patrol train stations. Thus, the situation remains rather complex.

Under these conditions, the fates of those who were direct victims of the acute conflict between the two neighboring peoples—already in its 2d year—must not be forgotten. In the past week, the Azerbaijan Government has decided to pay extraordinary grants to citizens of Azerbaijani nationality who have left their place of permanent residence and work in Armenia. A similar decision was made in Armenia, where a large number of Armenians who were living in the neighboring republic have resettled.

However, all of these difficulties have not been insurmountable barriers to the implementation of economic reform in the country, including in the Transcaucasian republics. The development of the independence of the republics in the foreign trade sphere has become one of the important components in the reform. As Ayaz Mutalibov, the Azerbaijani prime minister, told a TASS correspondent, the financially autonomous foreign trade department "Azerbintorg" attached to the republican government has in a short time set up direct links with more than 50 firms from 26 countries. The overall volume of transactions by "Azerbintorg" in the current year exceeds 50 million foreign currency rubles.

Seven joint enterprises have been registered, and these have been set up not only with neighboring countries but also with a number of West European states.

Under difficult conditions, the people of Armenia—with fraternal help from all of the peoples of the country and of foreign states—are continuing intensive work to eliminate the consequences of the destructive earthquake of December 1988. And charity is playing no small role here. According to reports from Yerevan, a "Children of Armenia" Fund has been set up there to help children who suffered as a result of the earthquake. Stiva Kaputikyan, an eminent poet, has become the fund's honorary chairman.

'Vremya' Examines Tension

*LD2810205689 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1530 GMT 28 Oct 89*

[Reporter Barkhatov video report from Stepanakert—from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Militia Internal Troops are undoubtedly the main force currently blocking those who are attempting—quietly and, as a rule, by night—to prove their commitment to their lofty nationalist ideals with weapons in their hands. Alas, the smell of gunpowder is already familiar to more than one group of lads here, and then there's the long drawn-out life in tents. All the more paradoxical then, is the picture of what we saw here: In averting conflicts, the Army finds itself occasionally caught between two fires. This picturesque ravine is basically rather like a temporary combat boundary for those serving here. Bullets don't just fly over head. Their cover is hit by stones. Ahead are the outskirts of the Azerbaijani town of Shusha, the rayon center of the oblast. Behind is the Armenian settlement of Mkhitarikend, a wall of houses pockmarked by bullets.

However, it is not always most difficult in the mountains. The Stepanakert Electro-Technical Works: The effect of the transport blockade of the oblast has been to stop work on the shop floor and to pile up output that cannot be taken away. Previously, the plant had gone from year to year without a break in deliveries. Those in charge of the plant say that many long-standing partners in other republics have abstained from making any financial claims whatsoever out of sympathy for the collective in its present situation.

Aware of this, I go into the director's office. Why? Because of the constant complaints from soldiers escorting transport convoys. Transport has frequently been bombarded with stones on the road passing the works. Hoping to hear the truth, I show interest in how people can be calmed down in this complex situation so that they do not take out their malice on the soldiers.

[G.G. Grigoryan, acting director of the plant] Stones are not thrown to kill the soldiers, but people are incensed because the Azerbaijanis are getting food and our people are not. We cannot even get the food to live on by helicopter.

[Barkhatov] Excuse me, why is it that the stones are hitting soldiers then?

[Unidentified man] Stones fall [word indistinct]. But we are not throwing them at the soldiers. There was someone where the stone fell and the soldier got it.

[Barkhatov] From the summaries of operations—incidentally, all this happened after extra troops were posted at the works and after the preventive warning with the director was recorded and carried out—so then, excerpts from the document: A shower of stones from behind the fence and from the windows of the administrative block fell on the convoy. Three explosive devices were thrown along with the stones. One exploded at the feet of officer (Sergey Filimonov), while Private (Pykhteyev) suffered the effects of the second. The latter has lost an eye and is in the hospital.

Spring sowing is underway in Nagorno-Karabakh. There are Army patrols in many fields in the oblast in response to residents' requests. It stands to reason that people cannot get by without bread; in the same way, the Army cannot get by without trust. [Video shows rubric "Problems of Our Federation" and fades to soldiers going about their domestic business, carrying rubbish, watching children, standing over a fire. Cut to views of the ravine and an Army patrol there, houses in the distance. Cut to piled up packages in the Stepanakert Electro-Technical Works and to debris within the plant. Cut to director's office where sullen figures sit against the wall. Tanks shown in streets, soldiers marching past. Camera in vehicle traces the road of the transport convoys.]

NKAO Deputy Comments on Draft Proposal

NC2810142089 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 27 Oct 89

["Artsakh: Old Problems, New Expectations"—ARMENPRES headline]

[Text] Yerevan, 27 Oct (ARMENPRES)—As previously reported, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet met in Moscow on 20 October to discuss, among other things, the results of the investigation of the Council of Nationalities' commission studying the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast (NKAO) problem.

ARMENPRES reporters L. Azroyan and C.H. Palakozyan, accredited to the second session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, asked Boris Tatamyan, a member of the Artsakh [NKAO] delegation, to talk about that meeting and recount the stance adopted by the Armenian deputies on the subject.

[Tatamyan] The meeting was held under the chairmanship of M. Gorbachev. Deputy chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet and chairmen of the committees and commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet took part in the meeting. There were also many guests including all the NKAO people's deputies.

The debate lasted more than 3 hours. Everyone who wanted to had the opportunity to express their position in a calm atmosphere.

The principled stance of the Armenian deputies is clear. This stance is defined by the 20 February 1988 constitutional decision of the NKAO soviet session. This decision provides for the reunification of Artsakh with motherland Armenia on the basis of self-determination.

The position of the Azerbaijan side is diametrically opposed to this; it rejects the right of self-determination and deems that the oblast could never be estranged from Azerbaijan under any condition.

At the Presidium meeting, we were presented with the draft resolution forwarded by the Nationality Policy and Interethnic Relations Committee of the USSR Supreme Soviet. For the Armenian delegation, that draft, taken in its entirety, was unfavorable. That draft was more of an attempt to create the illusion of a solution of the NKAO problem. For example, it envisaged leaving the NKAO within the Azerbaijan borders while subjecting it to the center. It also envisaged renaming the NKAO Special Administration Committee as the Temporary Extraordinary Administration Committee. The draft provided for the inclusion of Baku representatives on this committee. This is an inconceivable proposal.

The question arises: If a representative of Azerbaijan is included on that committee, then how should one assess the declaration concerning NKAO's subjection to the center? In my mind that is Moscow-Azerbaijan joint administration. In that case, what is the sense of using the term "subjection to the center?"

Each of the NKAO's people's deputies expressed their position on that point and other points during the Presidium session. M. Gorbachev became convinced that that draft needed revision and ordered the preparation of new proposals within the period of 1 week and taking into account the views and suggestions expressed and its presentation to the members of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the NKAO people's deputies bearing in mind that the issue could be submitted for discussion by members of the Councils of the USSR Supreme Soviet during one of the upcoming full sessions.

[ARMENPRES correspondent] Comrade Tatamyan, what is your attitude towards the proposal "to leave the NKAO within the Azerbaijan borders?" To what extent is it constitutional and does it comply with the principles expounded by international legal documents?

[Tatamyan] M. Gorbachev believes, and one cannot disagree, that there should be no victors in solving the NKAO problem. I see this as a suggestion for mutual concession. Therefore, a solution must be found halfway between the positions of the two sides. We do not see such a solution in the current draft. I think that, as I said at the Presidium meeting, the withdrawal of the NKAO from the Azerbaijan structure and its subjection to the

center as a union federal territory would be a mutual concession. I think that only a solution such as this would be fully compatible with the thesis of "there will be no victors."

[ARMENPRES correspondent] We often say that the NKAO problem needs a political solution. Does that imply a "constitutional solution"?

[Tatamyan] Yes, that's true, but only on constitutional grounds. However, we have been often critical of our Constitution's shortcomings. It does not allow the complete realization of self-determination in this or that problem. This is how things stand. However, the Soviet Union has signed a series of international pacts: It has signed the UN Charter; the international pact on economic, social, and cultural rights; the pact on civic and political rights; and finally one of the primary international documents, the Declaration of Human Rights. That is, we are endorsing all the fundamental documents defining the norms of the international community. Since we have ratified those documents and are thinking of establishing a state governed by law, we are obliged to respect those principles fully.

Thus, the second article of the international convention on civic and political rights stipulates that if something is not encompassed in existing legal instruments, then each party to this convention is obligated to introduce such legal and other measures in line with its constitutional system and the principles of this convention which would enable the implementation of the rights recognized in this convention. This confirms that the international community regards international law as supreme. If the constitution of a state party to the convention does not comply with these conventions and treaties then the constitution has to be amended and brought in line with the international documents. Our state, which has attested its signature under international acts, should have done this soon after the ratification of the documents. Even if we did not do so at the time, what prevents us from doing that now—from introducing relevant corrections to the USSR Constitution?

I want to draw your attention to the following: The first point in the international documents and in treaties relating to economic, social, and cultural rights are the same—it declares that all peoples have the right to self-determination. Emanating from that they freely define their political system and freely ensure their economic, social, and cultural development. So the question arises: Who has the right to deny us from benefiting from our right to self-determination? The oblast soviet of the NKAO people's deputies submitted a resolution on self-determination on 20 February 1988.

I spoke above about the possibility of a solution to NKAO on a mutual concessionist basis. Forgive the word play, but by accepting mutual concessions we are in fact making concessions against ourselves. According to Lenin, if a people has chosen the road of self-determination there can be no second thought about it. It

requires the opinion of neither the Supreme Soviet nor any other body. If NKAO's oblast soviet has made a decision, then it is final and is not subject to discussion.

[ARMENPRES correspondent] If during the examination of the NKAO problem at the Supreme Soviet session they allowed you to take the rostrum, what would you say?

[Tatamyan] I would have drawn the deputies' attention to the fact that the second article of the treaty on economic, social, and cultural rights stipulates that all states party to this treaty are obliged to encourage the realization of the right of self-determination and respect that right in line with the principles of the UN Charter.

Here I regret to confess that so far we have seen no respect for that point of the law from the central government. On the contrary, in order to extinguish the "activeness" of the NKAO population, the oblast was deprived of its governing bodies; the party oblast committee and oblast soviet of people's deputies were dissolved and instead a special administrative form was introduced.

[ARMENPRES correspondent] What results do you expect from the USSR Supreme Soviet's debate on this issue?

[Tatamyan] What do I expect from the upcoming discussion of the issue at the session? I again expect half-measures. They appear to me as an old skeleton, some sort of decorated Christmas tree on which they will hang new toys.

But we should not rush. The debate of the committees' proposals at the full session of the Councils of the Supreme Soviet and the emerging draft resolution would show by how much the Artsakh problem has approached its logical conclusion.

Armenian Quake Reconstruction Work Updated

LD2910222989 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1800 GMT 29 Oct 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] How is the reconstruction work going in the areas of Armenia that were hit by the earthquake? A report by our correspondents:

[Video shows correspondents V. Nazaryan and M. Nersisyan] [Nazaryan] It is nearly a year since that terrible disaster happened. Time is passing, but the problems in the disaster are not getting less. Now there is an extraordinary situation at the railway stations. This is Bayandur, near Leninakan. More than 700 wagons are waiting on the tracks here today, plus 15,000 tonnes of freight that has not been taken away. The situation is acute, and not only at this one station, but throughout the disaster zone. [Video shows rail cars, freight piled up]

[Begin recording, V.A. Kulikov, deputy head of Glavarmenstroy] The reason for this extraordinary situation—

or rather one of the main reasons—is the fact that for more than a month there was nil delivery of wagons, and now wagons are just pouring in. We have now organized unloading of the wagons around the clock. The deadlock between builders has been unblocked. [as heard] You'll see in a moment, the vehicles and machinery and essential equipment have been supplied, and now for the first time in the whole period of reconstruction work we have achieved the unloading of 405-413 wagons in a week. [Video shows Kulikov in station] [end recording]

[Nazaryan] The government of the republic has declared a state of emergency at all stations in Armenia up until 10 November. Emergency measures are also being taken, and they will most likely help to get the situation straightened out. But what about the people, and their collapsing hopes? In spite of all the plans, even today thousands continue to live in tents, in hastily put-together houses and garages, but winter is now not far off, the second winter in the disaster area. [video shows tents and flimsy housing] Yes, more than 40,000 able-bodied persons in the area of the earthquake are not yet working. But people have children, but even today there are no kindergartens and creches. And they have to prepare for winter—work on erecting has been broken off practically throughout the whole area, especially in the towns. For example, in Leninakan, only one block of apartments has so far been handed over by the civil builders, and in Spitak there is not 1 square meter of completed housing. [Video shows builders sitting around] And these houses were left uncompleted in the rayon centre of Amasiya by builders from Azerbaijan. [Video shows building with metal piles and a few feet of wall]

[Begin recording, I.P. Akopdzhanov, deputy head of the No 83 construction directorate] Supplies of materials from [word indistinct] of Azerbaijan have been completely halted since (?July) [words indistinct] we are continuing—what you see here, these piles of stones [word indistinct], we are being helped by builders from the Ukraine, and by the local republican bodies. We received a teletype and a telegram from the head of the directorate, that's to say Directorate 83, Trust No 8, Comrade Bunyatov, saying that all the workers who had come here from Baku, and are registered in Baku, should be recalled to Azerbaijan, to build houses for refugees of Azeri nationality from Armenia. [Video shows piles of stones; telegram dated 20 October] [end recording]

[Nersisyan] Thousands of builders from throughout the country, those working in Armenia today, understand him differently:

[Begin recording, R.I. Ilyasov, a builder in Tolyatti] I, for example, I don't intend to leave here before I have seen with my own eyes that people are happy. Are happy with a new apartment, that the children go to new schools. Well, that's what I came here for. [end recording]

Arutyunyan Receives Overseas Armenian Leader

NC2710112089 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian
1700 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, met today with a visiting delegation from the Social-Democratic Hnchakyan Party [formed in Armenia at the end of the 19th Century and now based in Lebanon] [words indistinct] and its secretary general, Zhirayr Nayiri, from Lebanon. The delegation also includes party central administration members Diran Akinyan from Syria and Avedis Demirdzhyan and Seto (?Simonyan) from Lebanon.

During the meeting views were exchanged on many [words indistinct] problems.

Present at the meeting were Galoyan, secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; Chakhmakhchyan, head of the General Department of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; Mkrtchyan, Armenian foreign minister; Giragosyan, head and deputy head [as heard] of the Ideological Department of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee; and (?Bagdasaryan), first deputy chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad.

Further on Arutunyan on Meeting

NC2810093589 Yerevan International Service
in Armenian 1900 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In greeting the representatives of one of the leading diaspora Armenian parties, Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, said: This is the first official meeting with a diaspora Armenian party. The positive momentum of the coordinated activities of the public and political forces and movements emanating from a unified and patriotic stance (?among) the diaspora Armenian communities must become a powerful factor in the further development of multisided ties between the diaspora and Armenia. It is necessary to radically restructure relations with our compatriots and instill these relations with a new content.

Zhirayr Nayiri, speaking on behalf of the Hnchakyan Party, gave a detailed account of the party's activities under the present conditions and clarified its position on the reforms taking place in the USSR. He highly assessed the activities and stance of the republic's leadership on problems disturbing to the Armenian people.

During the meeting views were exchanged on many practical problems.

Politicization of South Osetiya Conflict Scored

PM2910172989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
29 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Special correspondent V.I. Arsenyev report: "South Osetiya: Days of Alarm and Hope"]

[Text] Strikes at enterprises of the South Osetian Autonomous Oblast, Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR], are in their second month. The strikers' demands are of a political nature.

I visited Tskhinvali, the administrative, industrial, and cultural center of the South Osetian Autonomous Oblast, in early September. The situation was not calm then. In the city's main square, Theater Square, a big rally was under way at which language problems were being heatedly discussed. However, the situation now is much more alarming. Despite the fact that a program for the development of the Osetian language was adopted in September, the Osetian section of the population is far from satisfied. Many labor collectives did not agree to the stipulation that three languages—Osetian, Georgian, and Russian—should be regarded as state languages in the oblast in accordance with the program. Then the demand was put forward to raise the status of the autonomous oblast to that of an autonomous republic. This took place after the publication in mid-September of the new draft Constitution of the Georgian SSR.

The wave of rallies and strikes kept rising. The South Osetian People's Front "Adamon Nykhas" ("People's Assembly") and a number of enterprises suggested that the oblast leadership should be replaced. Additional forces of the republic Ministry of Internal Affairs were dispatched to the oblast. When I arrived in Tskhinvali last week, this demand, the demand to replace the leadership, was the most topical, although not everybody agreed with it, taking the view that it was based on emotions rather than facts inasmuch as the oblast leadership is not backing away from the provisions of the CPSU platform on the party's nationalities policy and is doing everything in its power to normalize the situation.

Without any result, however.

People are wound up to breaking point, as I was able to see for myself. I visited a number of enterprises, including such major ones as the "Elektrovibromashina" plant in Tskhinvali and the lead and zinc mine administration at Kvaisi. The miners, for instance, told me: "We will not end the strike unless Gumbaridze, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee and members of the USSR Supreme Soviet come to visit us."

Interethnic problems are a very complicated matter, as is known. What are the Osetians' upset about? Above all the utterances of Georgian informals and certain articles in Tbilisi newspapers and magazines and radio and television broadcasts in which South Osetiya has been referred to as "so-called South Osetiya," an autonomous formation invented after the bolshevization of Georgia. "The Georgians want to secede from the USSR." I was being persuaded, "and to begin with they want to deprive us of our autonomy." As evidence an appeal to the Georgian people published 20 October in the organ of the Georgian Writers' Union LITERATURULI SAKARTVELO was cited in which the demand was

raised to abolish "the so-called South Osetiya." The conclusion that is being drawn from this is that this serves to inflame anti-Osetian sentiments in Georgia.

What about the Georgian section of the population? I talked to A. Urtkmelidze, chairman of the regional section of the Georgian People's Front. He in turn cited unconstitutional demands which in his opinion were offensive to the Georgians and drove people to a state of hysteria.

As you can see, the positions are highly polarized. Meanwhile the damage caused by the strikes is running into millions of rubles. People are tired, but the war of nerves is continuing. No one wants to give up their principles, although they are all aware of the statute on strikes and do not question it. It is difficult to say when the situation will finally normalize.

Tashkent First Secretary Replaced

LD2810170189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1200 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] An organizational question was considered at a plenum of the Tashkent oblast party committee today. Comrade Mirkasymov was released from his duties as first secretary of the oblast party committee in connection with his appointment as chairman of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic Council of Ministers.

Comrade Mamarasulov was elected first secretary of the Tashkent oblast party committee. Earlier, he worked as first secretary of the Surkhan-Darya oblast party committee. Karimov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the plenum.

Kazakh Soviet's Inaction on Environment Chided

PM2010074789 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
17 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Own correspondent V. Mirolevich report: "The Executive Committee Is Going To...A Rally"]

[Text] Ust-Kamenogorsk—A perestroika support action group registered in Ust-Kamenogorsk has held a sanctioned oblast ecological rally. This is the second attempt by the public of eastern Kazakhstan to get involved in solving a problem that is highly acute for one of the unique corners of our country.

The first attempt was more than a year ago, when the "Green" movement became widespread. As a result ecological issues were discussed at a joint session of the rayon and city soviets, as well as at an oblast session. These sessions were discussed in the article "Glasnost for Official Use" (IZVESTIYA No 225, 1988). The first rally, warily authorized for outside the city limits, was held then too. The positions taken by the public and officials at it differed. Reassuring speeches were whistled down and accompanied by undiplomatic expressions. And even the previously arranged act—to the accompaniment of a brass band—of jointly planting an avenue

with trees, which should have symbolized joint efforts, did not lead to mutual understanding between the public and official sides.

The result of last year's contact between the local authorities and the enterprising population was the voluntary disbanding of "Green" groups and a reluctance for people to actively participate in resolving an urgent problem. Indignation about harmful discharges into the atmosphere and the rivers and acid rain was again "diverted" to kitchens, park benches, and store lines. And there could have been no other result, since, on the one hand, the rally had been permitted to allow people to "let off steam," while, on the other hand, people had come to it to voice everything they felt about the leadership.

This time the process of rounding off the sharp edges took place within a framework, so to speak. Representatives of the action group, the city soviet executive committee [gorispolkom], and the city party committee agreed their positions at meetings before the rally. This was also reflected in the fact that the rally was permitted in the city center and that it successfully avoided pigeonholing or explaining relationships. Priority was given to specific proposals to improve the ecological situation.

"We live in the same city, we breathe the same air, we drink the same water, and we should be united in solving ecological problems," Gorispolkom Chairman A. Kazhibayev said at the rally.

Prior to this, officials had claimed in the local mass media that sufficient measures had been outlined by soviet sessions and by the USSR State Planning Committee [Gosplan] decision on the program to bring about the oblast's ecological improvement. The chairman's call for the consolidation of forces was a recognition of the need to rely on public activeness. Time is passing, and there have been few real improvements. Even apparatus workers themselves have little faith in the fulfillment of the Gosplan resolution. It is not balanced.

The ecological rally adopted a resolution comprising over a dozen demands-cum-proposals. Some of these related to the powers of the government and central departments. Another, large section of the resolution was aimed not at obtaining aid from the center but at seeing what can be done locally through joint efforts. But how are these proposals to be fulfilled? There is no mechanism for implementing rally resolutions.

The things that were stated and recorded in the rally document are nothing more than good wishes and emotionally charged appeals which, as a party worker put it, are of "educational importance."

"Nonetheless," I was told at the gorispolkom, "the executive committee [ispolkom] will discuss the entire package of demands and bring to account all those who are polluting the environment and protecting nature in a slipshod manner."

But bringing economic managers and nature conservancy services to account and protecting the population's interests should be the direct responsibility of the soviets without any reminders from the streets. Is the "pooling of the efforts of the public and the local authorities" proclaimed at the rally just another attempt to lift the lid a little and let off steam?!

The local soviets' economic and financial dependence on republic and union departments continues to be considerable. Local budgets do not yet receive payments for manpower, land, and water, or fines for poisoning them. Today's local soviet deputies include many economic leaders. Will they vote for economic and administrative sanctions against themselves at the session? Currently, while the independence of soviets is still at the planning stage, it is unrealistic to force them to take account of a territory's interests without extensive public support.

Among the diverse forms of our street democracy ecological rallies should probably be particularly highlighted. Air, water, and land are identical for all. When these things are in short supply even privilege cards and special stores will be unable to obtain them. And it is strange that such rallies are called, as a rule, by action groups rather than ispolkoms, which now need people's help and support more than anyone.

Something else is strange too: The rally participants forget that they are voters. Permanent voters, not just on election day. The right to cast your vote is the same as the right to withdraw it. And people have the right to go beyond appeals and good intentions toward the personal responsibility of each person for the authorities they have elected.

Military AN-26 Transport Crashes in Kamchatka

LD2710135689 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1330 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow, 27 Oct (TASS)—The USSR Ministry of Defense reported here today that an AN-26 military transport aircraft crashed on Thursday [26 October], 35 km north of the town of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy (Soviet Far East). All 30 passengers and 6 crew members aboard the plane perished.

"The AN-26 was carrying missilemen and members of servicemen's families from one of the outlying garrisons," a TASS correspondent was told by Colonel General Stanislav Kochemasov, chief of the General Staff of Strategic Missile Troops. "The plane was piloted by an experienced crew under squadron commander Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Yudenich. Visibility was poor. Coming in to land at Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy airport, the aircraft struck the northern slope of a mountain."

A commission headed by Lieutenant General Sergeyev, deputy commander-in-chief of Strategic Missile Troops, has begun an inquiry into the cause of the disaster. The results of the inquiry will be made known in due course.

The USSR Ministry of Defense was expressed profound condolences to the next of kin of the victims.

Andrey Sakharov on Perestroika, Glasnost

OW2710200089 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1300 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Interview with Dr Andrey Sakharov by NHK newscaster Hisanori Isomura at Dr Sakharov's residence in Moscow; date not given—recorded with Isomura in Japanese, Sakharov in Russian translated into Japanese screen subtitles—Sakharov seen sitting in chair with his wife Yelena standing near him—from "NHK Special: Men Who Challenged 20th Century—Unpainted Faces of Nobel Prize Winners"]

[Text] [Isomura] Thank you for giving me this opportunity to interview you. The Soviet Union's policies of perestroika and glasnost are making moves to change the world. What matters are you most concerned about?

[Sakharov] Soviet society has changed drastically since perestroika was launched. There are wide differences between what the government speaks about and the peoples' actual life. The people are extremely disappointed and feel uneasy. They feel the urgent need of reform. No nation has exploited workers as our nation has done. Inequality prevails in our society. The environmental policy is in a shambles and the natural environment is being destroyed. All such things are impermissible.

[Isomura] When Mr Gorbachev launched the reform, the Western nations, including Japan, felt that it was not genuine but was actually aimed at deceiving them. However, now after 4 years of reform the United States and Japan are concerned that a crisis may erupt because the pace of the reform is too fast.

[Sakharov] Changes in the Soviet Union have not caused any crisis. The real threat to the Western nations is the huge Soviet bureaucracy, which has existed since the Stalin era.

[Isomura] Last of all, will you give a message to the Japanese people greeting the 21st century?

[Sakharov] In greeting the 21st century, we hope that all mankind will work together. People should try to overcome difficult problems and improve the living standards in both their material and spiritual life. Social contradictions such as environmental problems should be eliminated. A society based on equality should be established and affluence should mark economic life. No peoples and no classes should dominate others as leaders in the 21st century. No one should try to push his own thinking on others. It will be necessary for each nationality and each group to understand their own roles and to have the tolerance to cooperate with each other.

Marchers Oppose Tatar Nuclear Power Plant

PM2610154789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Oct 89 Second Edition p 1

[Own correspondent M. Zaripov "Commentary on a Denial": "Opponent with a Megaphone"]

[Text] Kazan—An article entitled "Shunning Dialogue" was published on 4 October. It said that director B. Antonov had refused to have a dialogue with opponents. I categorically reject this disgraceful lie. I am prepared to provide the available video materials. I demand an official investigation. Otherwise I will be compelled to take legal action. Items like this are fueling the atmosphere of hysteria in the autonomous republic.

Respectfully yours, B. Antonov, director of the Tatar Nuclear Power Station [AES].

The editorial office received this telegram. What is the background to the 40-line note that Tatar AES Director B. Antonov so categorically calls a "disgraceful lie"? As is known, the construction of the AES is continuing, albeit without an approved plan. Nearly R500 million have been assimilated already. It is also a fact that the energy department has plunked two nuclear power stations—the Bashkir AES and the Tatar AES—down on the same seismically active fault line. According to expert findings, made, incidentally, prior to construction, construction conditions "cannot be regarded as favorable" and "additional research is needed."

The bell of Chernobyl has roused the public. People want details about dangerous facilities and are demanding observance of safety measures, and, if safety is not guaranteed, a halt to construction. That was the reason for the public protest march in Tataria. There were rallies, in particular, in Naberezhnyye Chelny and Nizhnekamsk. The supporters of nuclear energy decided to keep quiet and Tatar AES director B. Antonov did not participate in the debate either. Then the march participants arrived in Kamskiye Polyany, where the Tatar AES is being constructed. B. Antonov drove out to meet the columns of demonstrators, headed by USSR people's deputy Yu. Kotov, head of the ecology department at Kazan State University, at a considerable distance from the settlement. As he accompanied them to the AES, he used a megaphone to holler his message to the effect that the people who had turned up in the nuclear power workers' settlement were not participants in an organized mass demonstration, but outsiders. It was a strange spectacle: A large procession, escorted by police vehicles, headed toward the construction site, and a bellicose administrator hollering at people to ignore the rally.

Let us give the floor to the demonstration's participants themselves. Here is the opinion of A. Garapov, leader of the protest march organizers:

"In two cities the rallies proceeded normally; in Nizhnekamsk more than 100 demonstrators were well received and accommodated for the night in a hostel. We were not allowed into Kamskiye Polyany; we only met

with station workers, while the director bellowed into his megaphone. There was neither platform nor microphones, while Antonov decided who would get the megaphone, stating that it was his personal mouthpiece. The settlement's inhabitants were told that extremists were coming to the station, the very same people who had gone on the rampage in Fergana and Sumgait, and it was recommended that they stay in their homes."

Here is what Professor B. Burov, head of the Geology Department at Kazan State University, said:

"We assumed that a serious debate would take place on the nuclear power station premises, at which the construction workers and operators would vigorously defend their positions. But the debate did not happen. Wrangling between groups and individuals is not what you call businesslike debate. Director B. Antonov publicly abused us, saying that we were deceiving people. Is that what you call a debate, when people do not argue with you, but hurl abuse?"

We would add that the upcoming demonstration had been written about in the republican papers, there had been information on local radio and local television, and there was a special announcement in the city newspaper *LENINSKAYA PRAVDA*. Some days before the demonstration N. Tuykin, chairman of the Kamskiye Polyaniy Settlement Soviet, came to the headquarters to discuss the program with the march organizers.

After the protest march B. Antonov took yet another step—he sent a telegram to the Tatar Party Oblast Committee [Obkom], "alerting" it to the fact that the demonstrators were urging the populace to launch a premeditated strike, something that had already been reported by newspapers, radio, and television. We are not going to consider whether or not he acted correctly; we would merely point out that the director is trying to compensate for his fear of a public argument by demanding sanctions and bans.

It has only just been made known that a provisional committee to halt the construction of the Tatar and Bashkir AES's has been set up in the republic. Its chairman, USSR people's deputy A. Kononov, rector of Kazan State University, and USSR people's deputy Yu. Kotov, head of the university's ecology department, and member of the Public Committee to Save the Volga, appeared on local television, appealing to the public not to resort to a strike, but to use other methods of struggle. At a Tatar television roundtable Yu. Voronin, deputy chairman of the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR] Council of Ministers, and A. Sidelnikov, chairman of the Tatar ASSR State Committee for Environmental Conservation, announced that the provisional committee's chairman had met in Moscow with the USSR Council of Ministers chairman. Specialists were given a week to examine all the circumstances of the construction of the Tatar and Bashkir AES's.

Crimean AES Protesters Threaten Strike

904E0014A Moscow *SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA* in Russian 21 Oct 89 p 1

[Report by S. Sadoshenko, *SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA* correspondent in Simferopol: "The Situation Is Heating Up"]

[Text] "Moscow. To Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ryzhkov. Protest.

"A decision has been adopted at a session of the Crimean Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies demanding that the USSR Government halt construction of the Crimean Nuclear Power Station [AES] and oblige the oblast Promstroybank [Industrial Construction Bank] to cut off funding for the work. This is at variance with a decision adopted previously by the USSR Council of Ministers to further investigate the seismology of the region in which the AES is being built, and it boycotts [as published] the work... We request that we be shielded against the ill-considered decisions of the local authorities, that the study be brought to a conclusion, and that a decision be reached in accordance with its results, guided by common sense rather than opportunistic considerations...."

This telegram is signed by the construction workers and administration of the Crimean AES.

In his turn, the chairman of the oblast trade union council has stated that if the government continues to drag its feet on adopting a decision on the AES, then the oblast soviet will give its approval to a warning strike at enterprises in the Crimea. Meetings are taking place continuously in Simferopol demanding an immediate halt to construction of the AES, and construction is being picketed.

Our newspaper has already reported ("Shadow Boxing," 14 July 1988) that when hundreds of millions of rubles had already been invested in construction of the Crimean AES it was found that there had been inadequate study of the site for the station. According to some opinions the seismicity of the region could be significantly greater than the design limits of the equipment. It was decided to conduct a careful study and only then provide a final answer as to whether or not there should be a Crimean AES.

The USSR deputy minister of atomic power recently reported to the oblast trade union council that the ministry had completed and forwarded to the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex a comparative technical-economic analysis of different versions of AES project utilization. The USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Conservation and Utilization of Natural Resources stated that there would be a review of the advisability of the nuclear power station in the Crimea. The USSR State Committee for Environmental Protection has initiated an expert ecology study of the construction project. The Ministry of Atomic Power believes that regardless of the further utilization

of the AES projects—the training center that has been set up there, modification of the electric power station to operate on fossil fuels, and so forth—construction, including social and cultural projects and housing, must be completed.

Time is passing but there is still no final answer. Meanwhile construction of the AES continues. The nuclear reactor is ready for installation. The public is again starting to fret. Because of the slowness of the departments and the poor information being given to the public, the conflict is heating up and threatening to spill over in a strike throughout the Crimea. Why is the State Committee for Environmental Protection only now starting the expert ecology study of the project, for which the need was expressed 2 years ago? Why is it that the USSR Supreme Soviet committee's intention to deal with the AES this October has been made known only now on the eve of the committee meeting.

The situation is extremely complicated. The generation of electric power is already limited in the Crimea. Entire developments in the cities are being blacked out. And the situation is becoming worse. Will this not cause a new problem tomorrow: Where will we find sources for electric power for the all-union health resort? We will be sitting in a comfortable hotel on the seashore using candles. There will again be meetings, but this time under a different slogan....

Future of Ignalina AES, Snieckus Area Viewed

*LD2610153089 Vilnius KOMJAUNIMO TIESA
16 May 89*

[Article by Candidate Technical Sciences, Rimantas Tonkunas entitled "When Ignalina AES Ceases To Exist."]

[Text] I would like to make several remarks concerning the residential area of Snieckus workers. Nuclear power station [AES] problems and fate coincide also with those of its residential areas. According to the current world and USSR norms, a nuclear power station must be dismantled 20-30 years following its startup. It has been stated that this period might be reduced to 15-35 years. Thus, the Ignalina Nuclear Power Station should already begin to be dismantled in 15 years. Let us assume this process will take about 5 years. It nevertheless becomes obvious that following the power station's dismantling, the residential area loses its primary designation. What should become of it then?

Having limited the power station's capacity to two units, it becomes evident less staffing is needed to maintain it. Hence, it is quite normal to start finding unemployment in Snieckus. It is not the Republic's fault this has happened. This is a result of the forced dictate of central departments. This dictate does not stop however: for instance, demands are increasing to construct a manufacturing plant for unspecified devices there thus providing a solution to the local unemployment problem. Moreover, new places of employment will have to be

established for the power station's employees following its dismantling. Some strange phenomena are thus taking place—houses are being constructed, people invited from all over are being housed in them—following which we hear, let's build them work facilities. This however indicates encouragement of spontaneous growth for a city, that latter we will be unable to control. After all, every large and mid-sized Lithuanian city has long since exceeded the population numbers recommended for them by scientists. It would result—as if that weren't sufficient for us—in another growing city, this time in the sparsely populated Lithuanian northeast, which does not contain an excessive labor force. In other words, Snieckus will not grow to the credit of Republic population, but thanks to newcomers. The time has come to say a decisive "no" to unnecessary development and growth of such cities.

The question still remains of what needs to be done with the Snieckus residential area after the AES is gone? Prior to replying to this question let us look around Snieckus. We see a typical recreational area surrounded by pine forests and hills, and marked by lakes of various sizes. It is true nature has been sufficiently ravaged here. Now the woods have been chopped down and polluted, many fire sites are to be found and large areas are occupied by dreary industrial construction units. Forests became swampy and sparse in many areas following the disruption of natural water runoff; various trash heaps abound. However with some investment and help from the public, we could yet revive this beautiful corner of nature. Consequently, I propose that this residential area be recultivated and a center for recreation, tourism and olympic sports be established here without delay. Recreation industry in the West brings in a huge profit. Here is another method for Lithuania to enter the international market under conditions of future economic independence. Much basic restructuring from the ground up will be needed in the Snieckus residential area; much will have to be removed and destroyed, and wounds of nature will need to be healed. The population of this type of center should not exceed 3-5 thousand. All this needs to be considered and seriously prepared for now. As for the inhabitants of Snieckus, they will have no difficulty in finding work, if they so desire at other AES under construction, or at construction sites which will not be lacking in the country.

Thus, the Snieckus residential area should continue to be solely the residence for AES workers. Under no circumstances should new industrial construction be started there and we must regard it as a phenomenon foisted upon Lithuania from the outside.

Draft Law Amending Law Criminal Code Discussed

*90UN0164A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian
22 Oct 89 p 1*

[Report by TASS correspondent V. Isachenkov: "To Strengthen Law and Order. Measures To Intensify the Fight Against Crime are Discussed in the Parliamentary Committee"]

[Text] The draft law introducing changes and amendments to the USSR and union republic Fundamentals of Criminal Legal Procedures provides for materials from video and sound recordings and photographs to be used as evidence.

The draft law that has been submitted significantly extends the facilities of the investigating services when they are gathering evidence of criminal activity, and the use of that evidence when criminal cases are heard in court. In particular it provides for the monitoring of telephone conversations. At the same time it is noted that the use of technical facilities that encroach on the inviolability of the home, and the confidentiality of correspondence and telephone and telegraph communications is permitted only with the approval of the procurator. Provision is made for measures to protect witnesses and victims from the unlawful influence of interested parties.

While in general supporting the idea on the need to strengthen the procedural base, many members of the commission offered comments on particular standards in the proposed draft.

The chairman of the parliamentary committee, S.S. Alekseyev, emphasized that the harsh measures envisaged in the draft may be implemented given a humanization of the criminal process in the country, namely, enhancing the role of the courts, and involvement of the defending counsel in the preliminary investigation rather than just in the final stage, as at present. As a result, it was decided to do further work on the draft law in subcommittee and then discuss it again.

The committee also discussed draft regulations for the Congress of People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet—the third version of this document. In the opinion of Deputy K.D. Lubenchenko (Moscow) the draft requires further work, and it is necessary, in particular, to regulate the right of investigating commissions in the congress, making provision for harsh sanctions for refusal to make documents available. One important problem for which a solution has still not been found is procedure for rotating the members of the Supreme Soviet. K.D. Lubenchenko spoke against it covering one-fifth of the members of the parliament each year.

The course of work on the draft law on the regime for states of emergency, which the committee must submit by 1 November, was also discussed.

MVD Give Briefing on Crime 17 October

*90UN0122A Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA
INDUSTRIYA in Russian 18 Oct 89 p 4*

[Article by I. Baranovskiy: "The Statistics Testify"]

[Text] A regular briefing was held yesterday in the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs]. This time the topic concerned the work of the ministry's investigative staff for inquiring into serious crimes.

The investigators had 1,365,158 criminal cases for the first 8 months of this year—52 percent more than for the same period in 1988. Of this number 398,635 have been completed. Crime is growing, and with it the workload of the militia. Work has to be done not with numbers, but with skill. Just in the course of the first half year, 22,000 crimes of past years have been uncovered. About 105,000 thieves, 30,000 burglars, and 8,000 plunderers of socialist property were charged with crimes.

Large criminal groups were recently eliminated in Moscow, Kalinin, Ulyanovsk, and Tula.

It was especially difficult to cope with law violators in the sphere of economics. Criminals in this area have a great deal of expertise. It was noticed that in one out of three cases the criminal group is led by an enterprise director or a worker of the auditing staff. Thus, a criminal case was completed in September involving the misappropriation of alcohol in the sum of R1.7 billion in rants in Azerbaijan. The investigators spent half a year of painstaking work on two Dagestan wine plants. In another case, at the Kachretskaya sewing factory in Georgia, the misappropriation of cloth in the sum of R700,000 was uncovered. And again, the enterprise manager and his assistants—the chairmen of the production and the trade-purchase cooperatives—were among the criminals.

Criticism of militia organs could also be heard at the briefing. In 8 months, 483,000 criminal cases were dropped—the criminals were not found, and the number of uninvestigated cases increased by almost one and a half times. The reason? The repeatedly increasing load and the shortage of personnel are having an effect. In addition, just recently about a thousand investigators have been sent for various periods to Central Asia and the Transcaucasus, where today the militia is having many problems.

We will be able to defeat crime only when we have a strong, professionally trained investigative staff. An order was issued by the USSR MVD in July. Its purpose—to reinforce investigations both materially and technically. And the result? In the last 2 months the shortage of investigators was cut by 27 percent.

Workers Detachment To Assist Police in Chita

*LD0110161589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1200 GMT 1 Oct 89*

[Text] The first workers' detachment to assist the police has been set up in Chita. All those who have joined it possess mastery of hand-to-hand combat and unarmed combat and know the basics of crime detection. Their former workplace is preserved and an average wage is paid.

Building Cooperatives Union Set Up in Moscow

LD2910090789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
0700 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Summary] A union of building cooperative workers has been formed in Moscow. It will help set up new construction cooperatives, defend their rights, provide them with economic information and supply other services. It will represent the interests of cooperatives in state and international organizations, deal with setting up foreign economic links and with the setting up of joint enterprises.

Mass Burial Ground Discovered Near Irkutsk

LD2810062189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
0304 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] In the settlement of Pivovarikha, near Irkutsk, the site of a mass burial ground—not known about until now—was discovered. It was established by the investigation that there are many victims of the Stalinist repressions of the thirties and forties there. The Irkutsk Oblast party committee and executive committee decided to establish in Pivovarikha a zone of grief and a memorial complex. In November, a reburial ceremony of the remains of those repressed, who were butchered during the years of the Stalinist regime of lawlessness and tyranny, will take place.

Implications of Draft Press Law Examined

90US0117A Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA
INDUSTRIYA in Russian 17 Oct 89 p 1

[Interview with Andrey Sebentsov, member of the Committee on Questions of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order, by L. Telen: "The Press in the Mirror of the Law"; date and place not given]

[Text] The draft law on the press (first reading) will be presented for the attention of the deputies of the Supreme Soviet by the end of October. Our correspondent met with the chairman of the work group that developed the draft and a member of the Committee on Questions of Legislation, Legality, and Law and Order, Andrey Sebentsov.

[Telen] Andrey Yevgenyevich, it turns out that both you and I are interested parties. I admit that my colleagues place no special hopes in the draft law, but it has suddenly surpassed all our expectations. So I am afraid that our conversation is destined to become tendentious. For that reason, at the outset I suggest this principle as a basis for our conversation: I shall take my questions from the editorial mail and discussions with readers, including those who, to put it mildly, are not in a state of rapture over the press. Do you agree?

[Sebentsov] We shall try... And so?

[Telen] "Press workers"—I am quoting from a letter from Voronezh—"more and more frequently forget that they are fighters on the ideological front and that their task is to call the people to great achievements and not to

dig around in the mistakes of the past and the blunders of the present...." Incidentally this is not a unique viewpoint! And in your draft there is not a word about the lofty tasks of the party-soviet press. Why is that?

[Sebentsov] Let us think about it: In general can a law include political declarations? Or should it be a full-fledged legal document that is designed "for growth"? Incidentally we had two initial drafts and the current variant is a combination of the two. One official one was submitted by the journalists union although, in my opinion, the union did not take responsibility for what was written in it. The other was from the authors Entin, Fedotov, and Baturin. All one had to do was open the first page of the official variant and it immediately smacked of propaganda. In first place was a statement that the press should instill a communist world view, be an active builder of a communist society, and even a participant in perestroika. Well, say, when perestroika comes to an end and we achieve what we are striving for—what will happen to the formulas of the law then? Will they change depending on the political situations?

We have decided that this approach is radically wrong. Moreover, ideological limitations have pervaded the entire fabric of the project, while in real life these limitations have already been overcome. In addition to official publications there have been independent ones.

[Telen] All one need do is go out on Pushkin square to be convinced of this. You find KHRONIKA, POEZIYA, and dozens of other independent, semilegal publications... But on this same square it is easy to be convinced of something else—these young publications have plenty of opponents, and irreconcilable ones.

[Sebentsov] We thought that the draft law should be based on real political life and try to lead it into legal channels. But then let us ask ourselves what we want from the press in the future. It seemed to us that in the renewed society the press would be a means of social monitoring, a free forum for discussion. Without this kind of press we shall simply not succeed in moving in the direction of democracy. Therefore we based the draft law on general civic and not narrowly ideological principles.

[Telen] But what now; will the law be indulgent of samizdat and will anyone who wants to be able to publish a newspaper?

[Sebentsov] I understand that the very idea of this is intolerable to some people. But we deliberately went in the direction of the democratic—registration—principle for the creation of new mass media. If you have thought about it and have found the money and workers and paper—go ahead. The local publications are registered by their own soviets and not centrally. We directly legitimized the right of organizations and groups of people and citizens to establish their own means of information.

[Telen] And no restrictions?

[Sebentsov] No matter how much we write that every citizen may create a newspaper, he will necessarily encounter material difficulties. Where to find the paper? Machinery? Not to mention money. There were attempts to include in the law requirements for the state—let it create a market for reproduction equipment and paper. Or make it incumbent on the state to provide all publications with these items. But we ultimately rejected these ideas: They were too unrealistic for us.

[Telen] So one lever of control over the press, material supply, will remain...

[Sebentsov] Only partially. I assume that the development of the market will gradually remove the economic problems. And there is no bureaucratic obstacle in the final variant of the draft law. For example, we considered a suggestion that when registering a new press organ the publisher would indicate where he would get the paper, machines, and so forth. But then one of the representatives of the local authorities said: Aha, so you will demand information. We immediately decided to reject this norm.

[Telen] But this is almost a revolution in ideology. And who will direct the independent publications, who will monitor them? Who knows what they will write tomorrow?

[Sebentsov] Let them write whatever they want to as long as it does not violate the USSR Constitution. If it does this the court will decide the measure of guilt. Here is the only restriction. The first article of the draft law says: The press and other mass media are free and censorship is forbidden.

[Telen] But what about Glavlit [Main Administration for Protection of State Secrets in the Press], which protects state secrets today?

[Sebentsov] Let it protect them. Incidentally, in a law-governed state Glavlit could sue a publication that discloses state secrets.

[Sebentsov] Allow me to express my own doubts here. What professional would believe that the law will protect him from above and from the side? It is a rare journalist who has not thrown an article in the waste basket after a call to the editorial office on the "government phone" or just on the regular telephone. And it is a rare editor who has not had to make explanations in the higher offices about one article or another...

[Sebentsov] The draft law is meant to protect journalists and journalist collectives from all that. If the draft is adopted you will have the right to dispute any attempt at pressure in a court of law.

I must mention another right of the journalist that is protected by the law—the right to obtain information. The draft suggests a particular procedure for written inquiry and rejection—it too can be argued in a court of law.

[Telen] Again I must refer to the editorial mail. You know, Andrey Yevgenyevich, that we frequently receive letters from various high levels of government. In them the readers demand that the journalists be called to account—expelled from the party, deprived of their right to work in the press, have their articles turned over to the KGB... The spectrum is very broad here. And in the law you seem to appeal to us for an increased sense of responsibility....

[Sebentsov] What appeals are needed here? If a journalist is indeed guilty of slander say, the person who was harmed has the right to take him to court. This norm is included in criminal law—why repeat it? Otherwise, in your position and in your opinion, you are free.

[Telen] Andrey Yevgenyevich, it seems that you have prepared arguments to counter any possible criticism of the law....

[Sebentsov] To a certain extent this is true. For when we were preparing the draft and discussing it we certainly were not hearing compliments. And the bitterest disputes were evoked by the article about abolishing censorship and, perhaps, the registration principle for creating mass media.

[Telen] There were probably other specific remarks. Can you give an example?

[Sebentsov] In particular dissatisfaction was expressed regarding the fact that the draft law has no special section on the party press.

[Telen] Did you take this remark into account?

[Sebentsov] The work group rejected all suggestions that departed from the concept of the law. Legally, the party press is one of the kinds of press of public organizations. So why should we single it out in the law?

[Telen] It seems that I have not managed to maintain the role of a dispassionate speaker. And to be honest I find it difficult to blame myself for this: This draft law promises too much both to us journalists and to you, the readers. Andrey Yevgenyevich, are you optimistic about the forthcoming discussions?

[Sebentsov] I am. After all, our law has been discussed and reworked many times. One might say it is a variant that is a product of suffering.

IZVESTIYA To Be Produced Electronically

PM2710130389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
23 Oct 89 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Belikov article: "IZVESTIYA Moves Into the Electronic Age"]

[Text] The IZVESTIYA combine is carrying out the biggest reconstruction of its printing base in its history.

One of the inner yards of the building complex at 5 Pushkin Square has for several months been a construction and installation site and a temporary store for large-tonnage containers marked with foreign inscriptions. First the Finnish firm "Yuit-Yukhtymya" [name as transliterated] carried out a radical replanning of the old 5-story production facilities. Now the very latest equipment for the new offset printing shop is being installed in it via the huge installation aperture.

"The printing press made by the well-known West German firm Koenig-Bauer," S. Gutov, the publishing house's deputy director, says, "is electronically 'tuning' all its units before starting work. This will ensure high-quality monochromatic and color printing for the newspaper, weeklies, advertising inserts, and other output. Probably from the middle of next year the capital's NEDELYA readers will be able to assess on its merits the standard of printing of IZVESTIYA's supplement. Later the Moscow evening edition of IZVESTIYA will start being printed."

This sequence of events is connected with the introduction of electronic devices into the complex process—restricted by its rigid timeframe—of the typesetting, layout, and makeup of the daily evening newspaper. In those places where the manual labor of compositors and makeup workers dealing with type-metal alloys prevails today there will soon be computers performing electronic typesetting and laser printers instead of mechanical presses for the sample proofs.

"The construction of the large IZVESTIYA newspaper and journal printing base is continuing in the Koloshino industrial zone in the northeast of Moscow," the publishing house's deputy director noted. "This complex will be connected by coaxial cable with the production facility at Pushkin Square, which will eventually become the head plant creating the first specimens of printed output. Via the communications link electronic impulses will instantly transmit the text and illustrations for the print run."

At all stages of the editorial work, from the typewritten original to the proofs of the finished page, paper—the main vehicle for printed information—will be superseded by an image on a VDU screen. The electronic typesetting system being installed by the Linotype (FRG) firm automatically receives reports from TASS and also from the newspaper's own correspondents in the country and abroad. It reprocesses the information stored in its memory into a form which is ready for printing.

Editorial employees' work on items will go through personal computers and the production group's video-terminals. Today "Robotrony" and printers, replacing the age-old pen and typewriter, are appearing on the journalists' desks. IZVESTIYA is entering the electronic age.

New Sunday TV News Program to Air 12 Nov LD2910103989

[Editorial report] Moscow television in Russian at 1857 GMT on 28 October in the "Viewers' Companion" program broadcasts an interview with Eduard Mikhaylovich Sagalaye, the head of Soviet television's Main Editorial Board for News. Sagalaye is first asked about the reasons for winding up the "12th Story" program, which Sagalaye used to present. Sagalaye replies that the program had been an attempt to do something with the youth of today, but those young people have now grown up and he, too, has moved on to new things. Now he is anxious to make a new program for adults.

The announcer says there has been much talk about this new program. He asks: "What kind of program is it? What are the viewers to expect of it? How often will it appear?"

Sagalaye replies: "The very name of the program—Seven Days—says that it will be broadcast once a week. It is planned that it will come to be the Sunday edition of the Vremya program. This means that it will take place on Sundays at 2100 [1800 GMT]. This program, from our viewpoint, should give the viewer bearings about the political life of the country and the whole world: That it is an analysis of the main events in the past week, and to some extent maybe a forecast for political events in the week to come. As for the credo, this question always arises when one begins to work on a new program."

Sagalaye goes on to say: "We would like this program to be a sort of support for the viewers, so they receive only authentic information from that program, only objective information and only truthful information, and we would like no winds from either left or right to impede Seven Days from giving bearings and news to our television auditorium. A certain image of the Vremya program has formed. This is a program which the viewers love—well, true, not all of them. And indeed some criticize it. It is a program to which people have become accustomed. This is the most important thing."

Sagalaye concludes by saying: "For a certain part of the audience, Vremya is an inalienable part of life. The appearance of a new image of the program and of new presenters may evoke irritation among people. I would simply like to appeal through your program to the esteemed viewers and ask them not to be hasty with their conclusions, ask them to ponder and to write to us or telephone us with their viewpoint, and to help the editorial board make the sort of program which people need."

The "Viewer's Companion" announcer thanks Sagalaye and wishes him success. He then says: "We invite you, dear viewers, to the premiere of Seven Days on 12 November".

Magazine Sees 'Conspiracy Against Perestroika'

LD2810125789 Belgrade TANJUG in English
0553 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow, October 27 (TANJUG)—I am deeply convinced that there is a conspiracy against perestroika, Tatyana Koryagina, a doctor of economic science, says in an interview to the Soviet youth magazine SOVetskaya Molodezh.

Many groups are interested in toppling Gorbachev, she claims. They may still be disorganized but they are certainly trying to consolidate and achieve their common political objective.

Koryagina, who is a member of the Soviet government's state commission for economic reform, claims that one of the stages of this drama is the party Politburo. In her assessment, there are at least two groups in this body—the radical, which wants the country to develop on the pro-Western path, in fact along the humanitarian lines of the development of civilization, and the conservative, which urges isolationism and indisputably includes Ligachev.

It is difficult, however, to understand Gorbachev, says Koryagina. At the beginning, when the economic reform was being declared, his market orientation was evident, while now he has given up taking radical, leftist steps and become a centrist. It has become clear that he does not recognize private property even within the framework of market economy, which makes his market model incomplete.

So far as cooperation is concerned, assesses Koryagina, Gorbachev is coming closer to the conservatives and the new law on cooperation marks the beginning of an end of economic perestroika.

It is dangerous that the course of strike movement was embarked upon in the Soviet Union, says Koryagina. She believes that the pragmatic, mechanical recognition of the rights of work collectives will create in the Soviet Union a situation "ten times more complex than in Yugoslavia," the country is at the threshold of major inflation, and those who want the people to hate both the government and Gorbachev are also interested in a rapid disintegration of the Soviet economy. This would help them stage a right-wing coup—claims Koryagina.

Economic

Nine-Month Economic Figures Examined

LD2810184489 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0950 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow, 28 Oct (TASS)—Over the first 9 months of the current year, structural changes have continued in public production says a report of the USSR State Committee for Statistics on the socioeconomic development of the country over that period.

The process of introducing new forms and methods in economic management is continuing: 59 concerns, 80 consortiums, 27 joint stock companies, and 69 production associations have been set up.

In the national economy during the period between January and September, over 130 million people have been employed, including 116.2 million white and blue collar workers, 11.6 million collective farmers, 2 million engaged in cooperatives, and 300,000 in individual labor activity (discounting those who combine jobs).

At the same time, the development of the national economy during the current year is taking place under complex conditions, says the report of the State Committee for Statistics. The country's socioeconomic situation especially worsened during the third quarter. To a great extent this was prompted by a decline in labor and executive discipline, interethnic conflicts, and strikes. As a result, the waste of working time in the national economy over the time period that has ended amounted to over 7 million man days, including in September 2.3 million. On average, in the country 34,000 people failed to turn up at work for this reason every day, and in September about 100,000 people. In this connection, direct losses of products in industry and construction amounted to R700 million during the period between January and September.

As a result, the pace of economic growth has substantially fallen. Output of many major types of products has declined. The uncontrolled growth of incomes has complicated the situation in the consumer market.

Measures being implemented in the country to improve the financial situation have not yet given tangible results. Over 9 months the issuing of money into circulation was 17.3 percent greater than in the same period last year.

The average monthly wage of workers and white collar workers in the national economy was R236, as opposed to R216 in the corresponding period last year; payment for the labor of collective farm workers was R168 as opposed to R156. In cooperatives, the average monthly wage of workers was more than R400.

Public consumption funds issued to the population payments and privileges of around R135 billion, which is R7.4 billion or 5.8 percent more than over the first 9 months of last year. Around 50 percent were payments of money. The population's deposits in savings banks increased by R23.1 billion, reaching R319.8 billion. Apart from this, certificates to the value of R2.2 billion were sold.

Consumer goods worth R308 billion (at retail prices) were produced, which is R22.3 billion, or 7.8 percent, more than in the same period last year.

Imports increased—in the 9 months, goods worth R35 billion were bought, which is R6 billion more than in the same period last year.

The total volume of retail goods turnover in state and cooperative trade was R295.9 billion. The rising incomes of the population are creating a greater consumer demand for items of clothing, household equipment, appliances, and construction materials. However, despite an increase in sales of these goods, the population's needs are not being completely satisfied; the number of goods in short supply has increased.

In the period January to September, 841,000 apartments with a general floor area of 51.9 million square meters were built with state capital investment. In comparison with the corresponding period last year, the amount of living space provided to the population has decreased by 3.5 million square meters. In areas of Armenia which suffered the earthquake, the annual task for January to September for acceptance of homes, schools, preschool institutions, polyclinics, clubs, and houses of culture using state capital investment has been fulfilled by 0.4 to 6.4 percent.

In the country there are 44 million people in education. The number of those at secondary special educational establishments is 4 million and the number of students is 5 million.

From the beginning of the year, 1.8 million crimes were registered in the country, which is 437,000, or 33 percent, more than over the same period last year. Every seventh registered crime is a serious one. Every third registered crime is unsolved.

Emissions of harmful substances into the atmosphere have been cut in comparison with the corresponding period of last year by 2.8 million tonnes, or by nearly 7 percent.

The state order for the delivery of fundamentally new equipment and materials received by enterprises and organizations for January to September has been realized by 95 percent.

In industry, production of 2,600 new articles have been assimilated and started. Ten percent of the total number of assimilated types are of consumer items. In industry, obligations for deliveries of production in accordance with the state order and for direct links with consumers from January to September were fulfilled by 98.7 percent against 99.3 percent in the first 6 months. R7.2 billion of production was not supplied to consumers.

Output of industrial production for 9 months increased by 2.2 percent. Labor productivity increased by 3.6 percent. The whole growth of industrial production has been ensured thanks to an increase in labor productivity with a cut in the number of workers in absolute terms.

In the 9 months, the enterprises of the agroindustrial complex produced foodstuffs worth R104.2 billion in retail prices, which is R3.2 billion or 3.2 percent more than for the corresponding period last year. Autumn field work is ending. However, harvesting, the procurement of agricultural produce, and the replenishment of

fodder resources in many places is proceeding at slower rates than last year. The state order for grain purchases is not being satisfactorily fulfilled.

Rail transport has been coping with the state order; however, the plan for the overall dispatch of freight has been fulfilled by 99.3 percent. In the third quarter the work of this form of transport deteriorated. The situation regarding the onward shipment of imported cargoes from seaports is complex. On 1 October there were 1.9 million tonnes in the ports—in warehouses and on board ships.

In the period that has elapsed, the number of participants in foreign economic ties has grown, with around 9,000 registered by 1 October. In the 9 months, produce and service worth R49.3 billion were exported, with imports amounting to R50.4 billion. The country's exports grew by 0.5 percent, and its imports by 5.1 percent.

Trade with the socialist countries, which accounts for 63 percent of the USSR's trade turnover, fell by 1.1 percent. Foreign trade turnover with the capitalist countries amounted to R36.9 billion. Imports from capitalist countries grew by 15.8 percent as against the period from January to September last year. The yearly plan for exports has been 71 percent fulfilled, and for imports 71 percent fulfilled.

On 1 October 1989, there were 936 joint enterprises registered on the territory of the USSR, involving firms and organizations from 53 foreign countries.

The results of the country's socioeconomic development for the first 9 months of this year show that in the fourth quarter it is essential that the labor collectives in all branches of the national economy significantly step up their work and raise their sense of responsibility for the outcome of the plan for 1989.

Lithuanian Enterprises Find Resistance to Autonomy

*LD2810192689 Vilnius in English to North America
2300 GMT 27 Oct 89*

[From "The Way We Live" program]

[Excerpts] At present, there are 120 industrial enterprises in Lithuania which are directly subordinate to Moscow. Starting from next year, Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia gain economic independence, which means that these Moscow-subordinated enterprises should become part and parcel of each republic's property.

So far Moscow is willing to hand over only 20 of its enterprises to the Lithuanian Government. The remaining 100 are currently the subject of heated debates and discussions in Moscow. Will the Lithuanian Government, and especially Soviet MP's for Lithuania, manage to prove to the center that one cannot be a real master if he does not own his property?

Meanwhile, the idea of economic independence put forward by the Baltic republics, which was approved of in essence at the beginning of summer during the first

Congress of People's Deputies, is gaining momentum throughout the entire Soviet country. Quite naturally, opinions differ on this count. Some call for total economic independence, while others meanwhile reject the idea entirely [word indistinct] afraid of possible political consequences.

In Lithuania, there is every indication that the first serious signs of an economic boycott are emerging. Fully aware of the fact that Moscow is playing for time and is reluctant to give the go-ahead to the Baltic economic independence program, some central ministries and major industrial enterprises are beginning to show distrust with respect to their Lithuanian partners. [passage omitted: interview with head of the supply department of an oil refinery in the northwest of Lithuania on anticipated problems]

Can we term this as an economic boycott? Pro-reformist (Kistlatas Lavaskas), a noted authority on economics, has been recently appointed to the post of head of the Economics Department at the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party. He thinks that the tendencies of boycotting some Lithuanian industrial enterprises are slowly but surely emerging:

A great number of enterprises in Lithuania are starting to feel mounting pressure on the part of various Moscow-based ministries and departments. With the year coming to an end (?and new suppliers' programs) still in process of making, most Lithuanian enterprises are told that if you want to become independent so much they should try to find their own suppliers, said (Kistlatas Lavaskas).

The reluctance of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow to adopt the necessary rules for the economic reforms to proceed in the Baltic republics is, as (Kistlatas Lavaskas) put it, nothing else but a certain form of boycott. Moscow finds it hard to give up its monopoly of direct interference in the distribution of Lithuania's budget and in the division of price policies for goods produced in Lithuania. The head of the Economics Department at the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee says:

[Begin (Lavaskas) recording in Lithuanian with superimposed English translation] The present attitudes of Moscow's ministries, which number approximately 70, have been born as a result of totalitarian-style bureaucracy thriving in this country for decades. Every single all-union ministry which disposes of enormous wealth finds this past practice very comfortable. This situation is the ideal breeding ground for the flourishing of bribery and corruption. Hence the anxiety that these privileges will disappear as soon as republican economic sovereignty will be implemented. [end recording]

While dealing with representatives of Moscow's ministries and departments, (Kistlatas Lavaskas) continues his train of thoughts: We are never given any serious counterarguments against the idea of republic economic sovereignty. The whole truth is that as a rule, officials well-advanced in age are adherents of the Stalinist-Brezhnevist line of reasoning. They simply do not want

to recognise the necessity of reform. One could not only have expected such a reaction from Moscow, yet people in Lithuania do not merely realise this truth. Certain steps are being taken in response. (Kistlatas Lavaskas):

[Begin (Lavaskas) recording] In our policies, we are maximalists, yet simultaneously we are realists. We are in the process of working out a package of economic bills which would insure such an economic structure in Lithuania that could not be harmed in the future. We do not intend to disrupt economic ties with the other Soviet republics. What we are trying to achieve is cooperation on an equal basis. [end recording]

We no longer want to be told what to do and how to do it. (Kistlatas Lavaskas), head of the Economic Department of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, said in this connection.

Scientific

'Mir' Cosmonaut Activities Updated

February Landing Set

LD2610143189 Moscow World Service in English
1200 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Preparations are under way to launch a service module to the orbiting Mir station now manned by the crew of two Soviet cosmonauts. The module was to be launched early this month but experts had to put it off until late next month after doubts had emerged over the reliability of a panel circuit board [PCB] of the automatic docking system. Out of the nearly 10,000 PCB's manufactured on a new advanced technology, two have failed to meet the specifications.

The Flight Control Center reported no change in the crew's scheduled flight, with Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov expected to return back to home on 18 February. [Moscow World Service in English at 1300 GMT on 26 October states that the crew of the Mir are scheduled to return to earth on 19 February]

Solar Flares Observed

LD2710140889 Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT
26 Oct 89

[Text] Moscow October 26 TASS—The Soviet Solar Physics Service and Land-Based Observatories of the Soviet Academy of Sciences registered four major proton solar flares between September 29 and October 24.

The flares changed the level of radiation in near-earth space and inside the Soviet Mir orbiting station.

The Soviet Health Ministry sector for radiation safety of piloted spacecraft told TASS that its recommendations enabled the cosmonauts to lower the radiation impact of the flares by two- or three-fold.

Under these recommendations, the cosmonauts were to stay in the most protected zone of the Mir working section when crossing orbit sections with enhanced radiation.

According to the Institute of Medical and Biological Problems of the USSR Health Ministry and the Institute of Applied Geo-physics, on the morning of October 26 the radioactive exposure of the crew measured 3.9 REM, judging by individual and the station's radiation monitors.

The index, which includes the 2.2 REM caused by solar flares, is four times lower than the permissible exposure for a flight of such duration.

The mission control centre revised the schedule of the crew's work in the areas of enhanced radiation in the orbit's polar sections.

The radiation safety and solar physics services intensified the monitoring of the radiation situation in space and aboard the Mir station.

Ozone Experiment With Cubans

LD2610104689 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1856 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Havana, 25 October (TASS)—The first Soviet-Cuban experiment for studying the ozone layer over Cuban territory has been completed. The "Mir" orbital complex, the "Tsiklon" aircraft-laboratory with the latest equipment, and a meteorological center set up in the town of Amaguey, took part in it.

A variety of scientific material which will make it possible to determine the correlation between the state of the ozone layer and the formation of hurricanes was gathered during the experiment. In the view of specialists, the results of the study will enable one to solve a number of problems linked with predicting these terrifying natural phenomena.

The scientific data obtained were registered by a computer onboard the Soviet orbital complex. In the new future, they will be delivered to earth by the "Progress" cargo spacecraft for a thorough analysis.

Program Discusses Fight Against AIDS

LD2810120789

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0800 GMT on 28 October broadcasts a 30 minute program entitled "AIDS—The Plague of the 20th Century," presented by special correspondent Galina Sivanyeva. The program begins with Sivanyeva introducing Mikhail Ivanovich Narkievich, chief of the epidemiology department of the USSR Ministry of Health, and Oleg Fedorovich Bogatyrev, chief of the AIDS quarantine and prevention section of the ministry's

epidemiology department. Sivanyeva then recalls previous broadcasts on this topic and listeners' letters in response to the programs.

Turning to the number of AIDS sufferers, Narkievich outlines data supplied by the World Health Organization [WHO]. Sivanyeva then asks:

"And how many AIDS sufferers have been registered in our country? You know, we sometimes receive quite venomous letters, the authors of which think that we do not provide precise data on this question."

Narkievich replies: "I would like to say that we in the Ministry of Health sometimes receive nasty letters, too, saying that we are concealing the true picture of the situation with regard to the sickness rate in our country. I would like to say with all responsibility that we have not once told an untruth. From the very beginning when our first sufferer was discovered in 1987, we announced this fact. Today 15 Soviet citizens suffering from AIDS have been registered among Soviet citizens—and 3 foreigners have also been registered. As far as infected persons are concerned, then this figure is changing fast. By today, 352 Soviet citizens have been registered practically in all union republics. But these are primarily the RSFSR, the Ukraine, and many others."

After presenting more WHO data and discussing AIDS symptoms, the conversation focuses on the way medical assistance to AIDS sufferers and HIV carriers is organized in the USSR. In this respect, it is pointed out, that Soviet doctors do not have the necessary knowledge of this disease. Bogatyrev says: "The situation with AIDS which has arisen in the country and the need to provide qualified medical help to the sufferers and virus carriers demanded that the Ministry of Health should set up a unified service for the prevention and struggle against HIV and AIDS. Therefore, specialized establishments were set up at republican and oblast levels. They are called centers for AIDS prevention and struggle against AIDS. Their task is to carry out an extensive screening of the population and discovery of persons infected with the virus." Bogatyrev adds that working in these centers will be specialists and epidemiologists and that the centers will have their own laboratory facilities.

Bogatyrev goes on to expand on the AIDS screening program. He notes that since the second half of 1987, when the program was introduced, more than 40 million Soviet people have been screened and 352 carriers discovered. Those who are primarily subject to screening are blood donors, and every blood donor is screened for AIDS. "Of the total of 22 million blood donors, 9 people turned out to be infected," Bogatyrev points out.

Bogatyrev goes on to note that as for other high risk groups, these are drug-users, homosexuals, prostitutes, and those who have travelled to countries where AIDS is widespread. Pregnant women are also being screened and this has been carried out since the beginning of this year. "More than 10 million pregnant women—10.5 million—have been screened this year and of that

number 11 were discovered...to be infected," Bogatyrev declares, noting that in these cases the termination of pregnancy is not proposed; it is up to the individual woman to make her own decision.

Sivanyeva notes that a woman listener suggests that those guilty of proliferating AIDS should be punished. This should apply to cases like the hospital in Elista where babies were injected with infected needles. Bogatyrev notes that several people have already been sentenced for spreading aids and the law stipulates deprivation of freedom for a period of up to 7 years for this. As

for the Elista hospital and other medical establishments, a group of specialists together with employees from the Ministry of Health, the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and legislative bodies are drawing-up new laws. These will be examined in the near future by the Supreme Soviet. This new legislation stipulates the criminal liability of medical workers for inappropriate fulfilment of their professional undertakings. It also stipulates criminal liability for disclosing confidential medical information, Bogatyrev concludes.